The Pittsburgh Gazette.

ESTABLISHED IN 1786. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1874. VOL. 89.—NO. 144.

FIRST EDITION.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

The Last Day's Proceedings.

A Number of Important Bills Passed.

The Amendatory Tariff Bill Postponed.

The Right of Way Granted to the A. V. R. R. Through the Arsenal Grounds.

Adjourned Sine Die.

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1874.

SENATE.

Civil Service Reform

Mr. MORRILL (Maine) submitted a resolution authorizing the Committee on Appropriations of each house of Congress to sit at the capital during the recess to inquire as to what reforms can be made in the several branches of the Civil Service and reduce the appropriations therefor. Agreed to.

The Tariff Bill Postponed.

A message was read from the House announcing the non-concurrence of that body in the report of the Conference Committee on the tariff bill, and asking for a new conference.

Mr. SHERMAN said it was manifest that Congress could not agree upon the disputed points of the bill at this stage of the session. He, therefore, moved that it be postponed till next December, which motion was agreed to without discussion.

Peaceful Settlement of Disputes.

Mr. HAMLIN called up the resolution reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, recommending arbitration as the just and practicable method for the settlement of international difficulties. Agreed to.

Printing.

Mr. ANTHONY, from the Committee on Printing, reported favorably on the resolution to print extra copies of Prof. Raymond's report on mining statistics. Agreed to.

He also reported favorably on the resolution to print extra copies of the memorial services held in the hall of the House of Representatives upon the occasion of the death of the late Professor Morse.

Mr. ANTHONY moved that the Committee on Printing have leave to sit during the recess of Congress. Agreed to.

Relief Bill Passed.

Mr. MERRIMON (North Carolina) called up the House bill for the relief of Jesse F. Moore and Charles W. Lewis. Passed.

House Bills Passed.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of House bills on the calendar, with the understanding that any objected to should be laid over, and the following were passed:

A bill for the relief of Jacob Bagley.

A bill authorizing and requiring the issuance of patents for certain lands to the county of Scott, Missouri.

A bill for the relief of the securities of James L. Collins.

A bill to extend the time for completing entries of Osage Indian lands in Kansas.

A bill amendatory of an act to incorporate the trustees of the Female Orphan Asylum in Georgetown, and the Washington Orphan Asylum in the District of Columbia.

A bill for the relief of James Lillie, postmaster at Lisbonville, Ray county, Mo.

A bill to protect lines of telegraph constructed or used by the United States from malicious injury and obstructions.

Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

Mr. MORRILL (Me.), from the Conference Committee on the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, made a report, which was agreed to.

Proposed New States.

When the bill to enable the people of Colorado to form a Constitution and State Government, and for the admission of said State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, was reached, objection was made to its consideration.

Mr. STEWART moved to postpone all further orders and proceed to the consideration of that bill.

Mr. SPRAGUE (Rhode Island) moved to lay that motion on the table. Agreed to—yeas 32, nays 21.

The bill for the admission of New Mexico into the Union was laid aside, objection being made to its consideration.

The Utah Bill.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN moved to take up the bill in relation to the Courts and judicial officers in the Territory of Utah.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN moved an amendment providing that a writ of error from the Supreme Court of the United States to the Supreme Court of the Territory shall be in criminal cases where the accused shall be liable to capital punishment or convicted of polygamy or bigamy. Agreed to.

The recommendation of the committee to strike out the seventh section of the bill was agreed to.

Mr. SARGENT moved to strike out the provision in the third section that when a bill is filed by a woman to declare a marriage or pretended marriage void on account of a previous subsisting marriage of the defendant to another woman, the court may grant such reasonable sum for alimony and counsel fees as the circumstances of the case will justify, and may likewise by a final decree make such allowance for the maintenance of the complainant and her children by the defendant as may be just and reasonable, and further, providing that whenever in any proceeding for a divorce civil cause or criminal prosecution it is necessary to prove the existence of a marriage relation it shall not be necessary to prove the same by the production of the record or certificate of marriage, but evidence of cohabitation between the parties as husband and wife and the acts, conduct and declarations of the parties shall be admissable. Agreed to.

He also moved to strike out the provision in the fourth section that in the trial of adultery, bigamy or polygamy, it shall make good the cause of the principal challenge to any juror that he practices polygamy or that he believes in the rightfulness of the same. Agreed to.

He next moved an amendment providing that in a capital case the prosecution shall be allowed five and the defendant fifteen challenges of jurors. Agreed to.

The bill was then read the third time and passed

Niagara Bridge.

Mr. FENTON called up the House bill to declare the bridge across the Niagara River authorized by an act of Congress of June 30, 1870, a post route. Passed.

Post Route Bill.

The post route bill was then read the third time and passed without discussion.

Executive Session.

The Senate then, at 1:20, on motion of Mr. SHERMAN, went into executive session.

The Senate in executive session agreed to a resolution of the House to extend the session till 6 o'clock this evening. Subsequently the Senate, still in executive session, passed a resolution extending the session until 9 o'clock this evening.

The doors were reopened at 4:15 o'clock, and on motion of Mr. SHERMAN the Senate took a recess until 5:15 P. M.

The Senate reassembled at 5:15.

Educational Reports.

Mr. ANTHONY, from the Conference Committee on the bill to print extra copies of the report of the Commissioners on Education, made a report, which was agreed to.

A committee was appointed to wait on the President to inquire if he had any further communication to send in.

Mr. GORDON called up the House bill to relieve the political disabilities of Jno. Forsythe, of Alabama. Passed.

The Senate then, at 5:45, on motion of Mr. EDMUNDS, went into executive session. At 5:35 the doors were reopened.

20 Cent Silver Pieces.

Mr. SARGENT called up the Senate bill authorizing the coinage of a 20 cent piece of silver at the mints of the United States. Passed.

The Senate, at 5:45, held a short executive session. Upon the doors being reopened Mr. EDMUNDS, from the committee to wait upon the President, reported that the committee had performed the duty assigned to them, and the President replied that he had concluded all the duties that devolved upon him, and had no further communication to send in.

The usual resolution of thanks to the presiding officer was adopted, who responded in a few appropriate remarks.

The Chair then declared that the Senate of the United States is adjourned *sine die*.

HOUSE.

When the House met at ten o'clock there were hardly one-fourth of the usual number of members present.

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

The various bills on the Speaker's table were taken up and referred, and the Senate bill extending the right of way to the Allegheny Valley Railroad through the Arsenal grounds at Pittsburgh was passed.

River and Harbor Appropriations.

Mr. SAWYER, from the Conference Committee on the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, made a report. In reply to inquiries, he stated that the amount was reduced about $250,000 below the bill as it came from the Senate, but was about half a million more than it was when it left the House. Altogether it appropriated little more than half a million less than the bill of last year. The report was agreed to.

The Postoffice Appropriation Bill.

Mr. TYNER, from the Conference Committee on the Postoffice Appropriation bill, made a report and proceeded to explain it. He said that the Conference report provided that the prepayment of postage on newspapers should commence on January 1st, 1875, and that the rate of postage on newspapers should be two cents per pound on all weekly and daily newspapers, and three cents per pound on all publications less frequent than weekly.

The report complained that the House was being compelled to yield its own judgment to that of the Senate.

After discussion the conference report was adopted.

The "Safe Burglary."

Mr. WILSON (Ind.) from the Joint Select Investigating Committee on the District of Columbia, made a report in the matter of the burglary in the District Attorney's office, which was adopted.

Business on the Speaker's Table.

The House again proceeded to the business on the Speaker's table.

The Senate bill authorizing the Committee on Appropriations of both houses to meet during the recess of Congress to make an inquiry into the machinery by which reforms can be made in the expenditures of the civil branches of the Government was passed.

The Senate bill in regard to the survey of lands of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The Senate bill reorganizing the several staff corps of the army was passed—yeas 181, nays 58.

The Senate amendments to the House bill in relation to courts and judicial officers in Utah were concurred in—112 to 36.

At 2:45 the House took a recess to 3:15.

Closing Up Business.

After the recess the Speaker announced that he had appointed Messrs. E. R. Hoar and Mitchell on the committee to frame a new government for the District of Columbia.

Mr. MAYNARD, from the Committee to wait on the President, announced that the committee had performed its duty and had been informed by the President that he had no further communication to make to Congress, that he tendered his congratulations, and gave the committee a parting salutation. (Laughter.)

Mr. PLATT moved that the report be accepted. (Laughter.)

The Speaker, announcing that the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill contained an item for the statue of Gen. Greene of Rhode Island, and for the appointment of a member of either House as a member of the Commission, said that he had appointed Mr. EAMES.

On motion of Mr. CALDWELL, by unanimous consent, the Senate bill removing the political disabilities of James L. Pugh, of Alabama, was passed.

This was the last legislative act of the session.

For some time before the hour of final adjournment there was noise and the murmur of friendly leave-taking between members. As the hands on the clock dial indicated six, the Speaker, wishing all of them a safe and happy return to their homes and families, pronounced the first session of the XLIIId Congress adjourned *sine die*.

THE CAPITAL.

Report on the "Safe Burglary."

Commission to Govern the District of Columbia.

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1874.

Report on the "Safe Burglary."

The Joint Select Committee on the Affairs of the District of Columbia, heretofore instructed to inquire into the so-called safe burglary, report that they have diligently endeavored to make the investigation required by the resolution, and in doing so have examined a number of witnesses, and have learned the names of other witnesses who ought to be examined, but whose attendance they have not been able up to this time to procure. The testimony taken is in many material respects conflicting and irreconcilable, and in some important particulars contradictions cannot be accounted for upon any theory of mistake or want of memory. The testimony satisfies the committee that one of the objects of the burglary was to falsely implicate Columbus Alexander, one of the memorialists, but in the absence of the witnesses heretofore referred to, whose attendance has not been procured, it would be, in the opinion of the committee, improper for them to express any opinion upon the question, considering that the burglary must be a subject of investigation in the Criminal Court of the District.

The committee suggest that an expression of opinion by them that any particular person or persons are guilty might be unwise, and not proper, for reasons that will readily be discovered by reading the testimony. The committee think it should be brought to the notice of the Secretary of the Treasury and Attorney General, and in this connection the committee call special attention to telegrams which were sent from Michael Hays to H. C. Whittley, to J. C. Nestleship, and also to other telegrams and letters produced in the evidence. They therefore report the testimony and the following resolution:

Resolved, That the clerk of the House of Representatives be and he is hereby instructed to transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Attorney General each a copy of the evidence taken by the Joint Select Committee in relation to the affairs of the District of Columbia so far as the same relates to the late robbery of the safe in the office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, for their information and guidance.

Commission to Govern the District of Columbia.

The President this afternoon sent to the senate the names of Alex. R. Shepherd, late Governor of the District of Columbia, Wm. A. Denison, of Ohio, ex Postmaster General, and Henry T. Blow, of Missouri, formerly a member of Congress from that State, and afterward Minister to Brazil, as a Commission to govern the District until a new form of government shall have been prepared and adopted.

The Senate was in session about two hours and a half on these nominations, the debate being altogether confined to that of Shepherd, the Senators freely and strongly expressing themselves against it, while there were but few defenders. Finally the nomination was laid on the table by a vote of 36 against 5. The other two nominations were confirmed without discussion.

After the recess of the Senate the President to complete the number, sent in the name of A. G. Cattell, ex-United States Senator from New Jersey, who was soon thereafter confirmed. This gentleman is the only one of the three commissioners who has real estate interests in in the city, but all are non-residents.

"Straw Bids."

The House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads made a report to-day on charges preferred by Representative Luttrell against the Postoffice Department and some of its subordinate officers relative to certain post route transactions in California. The committee say they do not find evidence of fraud, irregularities or violation of law, although they are satisfied that upon many, if not all, of the routes mentioned "straw bids" were made, which, under the law, the Postmaster General was powerless to correct.

Alabama Claims Commissioners.

The President to-day, having approved of the bill for the distribution of the Geneva award, nominated to the Senate the following gentleman to be Judges of the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims: Hezekiah G. Wells, of Michigan; Martin Ryerson, New Jersey; Kennett Raynor, Mississippi; Wm. A. Porter, Pa., and Caleb Baldwin, Ohio; also John Davis, of Massachusetts, to be clerk of the Court of Commissioners.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., 1 A. M., June 24, 1874.

Probabilities for To-day.

For New England, the Middle States and eastern portion of the lower lake region, continued warm weather and local rains will prevail, with northwest or southwest winds and stationary or rising barometer.

The lower Missouri river will fall slowly during Wednesday.

Daily Bulletin.

OFFICE OF OBSERVATORY,
PITTSBURGH, June 23, 1874, 10:48 P. M.

The weather at Cairo was clear, thermometer 80; Cincinnati, clear, thermometer 84; Indianapolis, hazy, clear, thermometer 82; Keokuk, Iowa, fair, thermometer 83; Fort Gibson, light rain, thermometer 75; Leavenworth, Kan., clear, thermometer 81; Louisville, Ky., clear, thermometer 86; Memphis, Tennessee, cloudy, thermometer 81; Nashville, Tenn., clear, thermometer 84; Omaha, Neb., clear, thermometer 79; Pittsburgh, fair, thermometer 69; Shreveport, clear, thermometer 75; St. Louis, clear, thermometer 83; St. Paul, Minn., clear, thermometer 81; Vicksburg, Miss., fair, thermometer 74; Yankton, D. T., clear, thermometer 75; Fort Sully, clear, thermometer 82.

GEO. H. ROHR, Observer.

STATE BREVITIES.

A ROMAN valued at three hundred dollars, was stolen Saturday morning, from the stable of Mr. A. F. Brandt, Altoona.

MRS. ANN ELIZA YOUNG, the nineteenth wife of Brigham, the head prophet of Mormonism, delivered lectures in Titusville, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings last, to large audiences.

THE mysterious Hunter well, at Millerstown, is at length in the third sand. It is making a very poor show, and bets are freely offered that it will at no time produce 25 barrels in any one day.

THE Oil City *Derrick* yesterday contained a full page diagram of all the iron tankage in the lower oil district and at Raymilton. It gives the location of the various towns, the number of tanks at each and also the aggregate capacity. It place as the total number of tanks at 154, and the capacity 2,260,040 barrels.

A SPECIAL to the *Derrick* says Daniel Evans struck the largest well in the Oildom, Monday on Dougherty farm, Petrolia. It will do between six and seven hundred barrels the first twenty-four hours. Nolan & O'Conner, on the John Blaney farm, found a better sand on Saturday evening, and for the first twenty-four hours flowed three hundred and fifty barrels. It had been considered a failure.

SECOND EDITION.

Four O'Clock.

FOREIGN.

Marshal Concha's Plan to Crush the Carlist Rebellion.

Telegraphic Communication Established Between Brazil and Portugal.

GREAT BRITAIN.

International Government of Telegraphic Lines.

LONDON, June 23.—The *Post* of to-day says an international conference will assemble at St. Petersburg in 1875 for the purpose of revising the rules and regulations adopted by the Paris convention of 1865 for the government of the telegraphic lines. Some twenty-two States are expected to be represented by delegates.

The Pope and the United States.

A Florence journal says the Pope has been presented with a copy of an address sent from the United States to Archbishop Ledochowski of Posen. The Holy Father, in replying, spoke most cordially of America, and said: "The United States is the only country where I am really Pope in the eyes of the Government. I am always afraid lest European Governments shall oppose or control my acts, whereas I can freely send public documents to the United States without fear or opposition on the part of its Government."

Laborers for Canada.

LONDON, June 23.—Mr. Arch has consented to go to Canada with a party of agricultural laborers. At a meeting of farmers in Newmarket to-day, one of the speakers declared he would undertake to import from Canada a sufficient number of unemployed laborers to fill the places of men locked out in his section of country.

SPAIN.

Concha's Plan to Crush the Rebellion.

MADRID, June 23.—Marshal Concha's plan to localize, and by which he hopes to eventually overthrow the Carlist insurrection, provides for the establishment of a fortified military line commencing at Los Sarios, passing Estella, Puerta la Reina and Pamplena, and terminating at Avez. The Marshal expects by this means to confine the Carlists to a small district of country destitute of resources. He considers it useless to employ his army in continual engagements with an enemy who is without a definite plan of campaign.

Proposed Fusion.

MADRID, June 23.—Castellar and Marters had a long conference yesterday on the fusion of the Republicans and radicals. The latter demand as a condition of fusion the election of a new Cortes.

Carlists Defeated near Morella.

MADRID, June 23.—Government troops defeated and dispersed some Carlist bands near Morella. The insurgents lost forty-four killed.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Telegraphic Communication with Europe.

PERNAMBUCO, June 23.—The successful laying of the submarine cable bringing Brazil into telegraphic communication with Europe has been the occasion of much pleasurable excitement in this country, and there is a general jubilee in Pernambuco.

PORTUGAL.

Telegraphic Congratulations.

LISBON, June 23.—The customary messages of thanksgiving and congratulation have passed between Portugal and Brazil over the establishment of telegraphic communication.

POLITICAL.

New York Prohibition Convention.

AUBURN, N. Y., June 23.—The Convention of the Prohibition party temporarily organized to-day with James L. Bogg, of Syracuse, as Chairman, who made a short address, invoking the people to rise and put down the monster of intemperance now imperiling our liberties and threatening the destruction of our Government.

A long discussion took place on the admission of delegates, and it was finally decided to allow every prohibitionist present to participate in the proceedings.

Addresses were made urging the prohibitionists to stand shoulder to shoulder as a party, and to organize in every county, so that there shall be no selling out of temperance men by politicians.

Mrs. Gage was invited to address the Convention. Before she commenced her address it was moved that Mrs. Gage and all other ladies present be made members of the Convention. This opened the question of woman suffrage, and it was discussed at some length. Several delegates insisted that woman suffrage was vital to the Prohibition party. The discussion was finally concluded, and Mrs. Gage proceeded to address the Convention.

A series of resolutions was presented strongly favoring prohibition and an independent party, denouncing the course of the Republican party, whining all of them been a safe and happy return to their homes and families, pronounced the first session of the XLIIId Congress adjourned *sine die*.

THE CAPITAL.

Report on the "Safe Burglary."

Commission to Govern the District of Columbia.

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1874.

Report on the "Safe Burglary."

The Joint Select Committee on the Affairs of the District of Columbia, heretofore instructed to inquire into the so-called safe burglary, report that they have diligently endeavored to make the investigation required by the resolution, and in doing so have examined a number of witnesses, and have learned the names of other witnesses who ought to be examined, but whose attendance they have not been able up to this time to procure. The testimony taken is in many material respects conflicting and irreconcilable, and in some important particulars contradictions cannot be accounted for upon any theory of mistake or want of memory. The testimony satisfies the committee that one of the objects of the burglary was to falsely implicate Columbus Alexander, one of the memorialists, but in the absence of the witnesses heretofore referred to, whose attendance has not been procured, it would be, in the opinion of the committee, improper for them to express any opinion upon the question, considering that the burglary must be a subject of investigation in the Criminal Court of the District.

The committee suggest that an expression of opinion by them that any particular person or persons are guilty might be unwise, and not proper, for reasons that will readily be discovered by reading the testimony. The committee think it should be brought to the notice of the Secretary of the Treasury and Attorney General, and in this connection the committee call special attention to telegrams which were sent from Michael Hays to H. C. Whittley, to J. C. Nestleship, and also to other telegrams and letters produced in the evidence. They therefore report the testimony and the following resolution:

Resolved, That the clerk of the House of Representatives be and he is hereby instructed to transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Attorney General each a copy of the evidence taken by the Joint Select Committee in relation to the affairs of the District of Columbia so far as the same relates to the late robbery of the safe in the office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, for their information and guidance.

Commission to Govern the District of Columbia.

The President this afternoon sent to the senate the names of Alex. R. Shepherd, late Governor of the District of Columbia, Wm. A. Denison, of Ohio, ex Postmaster General, and Henry T. Blow, of Missouri, formerly a member of Congress from that State, and afterward Minister to Brazil, as a Commission to govern the District until a new form of government shall have been prepared and adopted.

The Senate was in session about two hours and a half on these nominations, the debate being altogether confined to that of Shepherd, the Senators freely and strongly expressing themselves against it, while there were but few defenders. Finally the nomination was laid on the table by a vote of 36 against 5. The other two nominations were confirmed without discussion.

After the recess of the Senate the President to complete the number, sent in the name of A. G. Cattell, ex-United States Senator from New Jersey, who was soon thereafter confirmed. This gentleman is the only one of the three commissioners who has real estate interests in in the city, but all are non-residents.

"Straw Bids."

The House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads made a report to-day on charges preferred by Representative Luttrell against the Postoffice Department and some of its subordinate officers relative to certain post route transactions in California. The committee say they do not find evidence of fraud, irregularities or violation of law, although they are satisfied that upon many, if not all, of the routes mentioned "straw bids" were made, which, under the law, the Postmaster General was powerless to correct.

Alabama Claims Commissioners.

The President to-day, having approved of the bill for the distribution of the Geneva award, nominated to the Senate the following gentleman to be Judges of the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims: Hezekiah G. Wells, of Michigan; Martin Ryerson, New Jersey; Kennett Raynor, Mississippi; Wm. A. Porter, Pa., and Caleb Baldwin, Ohio; also John Davis, of Massachusetts, to be clerk of the Court of Commissioners.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., 1 A. M., June 24, 1874.

Probabilities for To-day.

For New England, the Middle States and eastern portion of the lower lake region, continued warm weather and local rains will prevail, with northwest or southwest winds and stationary or rising barometer.

The lower Missouri river will fall slowly during Wednesday.

Daily Bulletin.

OFFICE OF OBSERVATORY,
PITTSBURGH, June 23, 1874, 10:48 P. M.

The weather at Cairo was clear, thermometer 80; Cincinnati, clear, thermometer 84; Indianapolis, hazy, clear, thermometer 82; Keokuk, Iowa, fair, thermometer 83; Fort Gibson, light rain, thermometer 75; Leavenworth, Kan., clear, thermometer 81; Louisville, Ky., clear, thermometer 86; Memphis, Tennessee, cloudy, thermometer 81; Nashville, Tenn., clear, thermometer 84; Omaha, Neb., clear, thermometer 79; Pittsburgh, fair, thermometer 69; Shreveport, clear, thermometer 75; St. Louis, clear, thermometer 83; St. Paul, Minn., clear, thermometer 81; Vicksburg, Miss., fair, thermometer 74; Yankton, D. T., clear, thermometer 75; Fort Sully, clear, thermometer 82.

GEO. H. ROHR, Observer.

STATE BREVITIES.

A ROMAN valued at three hundred dollars, was stolen Saturday morning, from the stable of Mr. A. F. Brandt, Altoona.

MRS. ANN ELIZA YOUNG, the nineteenth wife of Brigham, the head prophet of Mormonism, delivered lectures in Titusville, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings last, to large audiences.

THE mysterious Hunter well, at Millerstown, is at length in the third sand. It is making a very poor show, and bets are freely offered that it will at no time produce 25 barrels in any one day.

THE Oil City *Derrick* yesterday contained a full page diagram of all the iron tankage in the lower oil district and at Raymilton. It gives the location of the various towns, the number of tanks at each and also the aggregate capacity. It place as the total number of tanks at 154, and the capacity 2,260,040 barrels.

A SPECIAL to the *Derrick* says Daniel Evans struck the largest well in the Oildom, Monday on Dougherty farm, Petrolia. It will do between six and seven hundred barrels the first twenty-four hours. Nolan & O'Conner, on the John Blaney farm, found a better sand on Saturday evening, and for the first twenty-four hours flowed three hundred and fifty barrels. It had been considered a failure.

APPALLING CATASTROPHE.

Sad Termination of a Strawberry Festival.

A Floor Full of People Gives Way,

And Falls on Another Room Full.

Fourteen Persons Killed and Two Hundred Injured.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., June 23.—An appalling catastrophe occurred here to-night. A strawberry festival was being held at the parlors of the Central Baptist church, when, without any premonition, the floor gave way, precipitating a room full into the story below. The parlor was on the second floor, and the room underneath was also full. A fire alarm was immediately given and the firemen hurried to the scene. Soon ten thousand people were there, and tremendous excitement prevailed. It is impossible to give particulars at this hour. Five dead bodies were taken out, and the work has hardly commenced. Probable a hundred persons are more or less injured, many very seriously.

Second Dispatch.

The following were taken out dead: Dr. O. Wainwright, Mrs. E. Austin Barnes, Mrs. James M. Crow, Mrs. J. E. Karr, Miss Gussie Carpenter, Mrs. Elijah Veeder, of Utica, Miss Gracie Holmes, Miss Winnie Collins, aged 12 to-day; Hattie Leonard, five or six years old; John Aussin Outrader, a boy about nine years old; Miss Minnie Thomas, Frank Collins, aged 14; and Lulu Harton, aged 12.

Mrs. Dr. Wainwright will undoubtedly die. Ex-Alderman Austin Barnes is very seriously injured. Rev. Dr. H. J. Eddy is slightly injured. Two hundred persons are injured, some dangerously.

The bodies are supposed to be all recovered now. It is impossible to get the names of the injured to-night. The city is filled with lamentations.

The Scene in the Streets.

around the church baffles description. Thousands are gathered there, asking after friends, waiting for dead and attending to the injured. The entire police force and fire department of the city were called out and took charge of the work of recovering the dead and wounded. The broken timbers were hoisted up with difficulty.

The walls of the church did not fall in, but are seriously damaged. The church is comparatively a new one. A few minutes before the floor gave way it trembled so that many persons left the room, fearing an accident, which had been predicted by many. The accident was caused by the giving way of a joist that supported the floor. The joist ran from both sides of the room to a cross stringer, the middle of which was supported by iron rods from the roof. The stringer gave way, pulling the ceiling and roof down upon the people and precipitating them into the room below.

The work of recovery was exceedingly slow, as it had to be done in the dark, and it was feared every moment the walls would fall in.

TAXATION IN ALLENTOWN.

Another Meeting of Citizens Last Night—The Speeches Made and Action Proposed.

To discuss the question of taxation was the prime cause of another meeting of citizens that was held last night in the school house of the Thirty-first ward, Allentown. Mr. B. McClain was chosen to preside and Mr. Nesbit was elected Secretary. Alderman Rorah who had visited the Thirty-Second ward reported the result of his as being favorable although the people of Mount Washington be said showed selfishness in refusing to make common cause. Dr. E. A. Wood said that in his ward (the Twenty-sixth) although they had as yet said nothing, they felt as deeply concerned as the people of other wards. He said the present Council was not so deeply responsible for the result of the present state of things. What evil had been done by the present Council he said was not yet apparent, that this evil had been growing for years and was largely created before annexation. Mr. J. W. Turney was of the opinion that relief could only be had through secession, as no benefits had ever been received from consolidation.

Dr. Wood on being asked the reason of the present financial trouble said he did not believe any one could explain except the pluderers who had caused the difficulty. He did not believe in going to law but considered the best plan to be to refuse to pay the taxes and force the publicans to act on the offensive.

Upon the introduction of the Mt. Washington delegation a speech was made by Mr. Marland, who proposed instituting proceedings in divorce. He characterized the consolidation act as a bastard, conceived in corruption, and born a well developed fraud. He claimed that the compact was a fraud, and consequently vitiated in its conception. Dr. Wood was again called on, and said he was, in general, committed to honorable courses of action, but in this case he was in favor of any measure, honorable or dishonorable, to break the hateful bond which bound the South Side to the festering corpse which weighed down the old city.

Dr. McCord made a speech in which he said that if sent to Harrisburgh he would do all he could toward advancing the interests of the South Side. On motion a Committee of five consisting of Messrs. Hare, Jones, Hemmire, Feidler and Sutter, was appointed to raise funds in the matter. Messrs. Kline, Rorah and Burt were appointed to confer with other wards. The specialty obnoxious taxes are set forth as follows: The tax to liquidate the old city indebtedness, prior to consolidation; the fire, and water taxes, also the tax on the part of the Treasurer to accept personal taxes when tendered at his office.

The meeting adjourned to meet again next Tuesday night on Mt. Washington.

AN ELOCUTIONARY TEST.

Reading Contest at the Pittsburgh Female College Last Night—An Exceptionally Fine Entertainment.

Last evening the elegant chapel of the Pittsburgh Female College was crowded to its utmost capacity by an audience of beauty, wealth and intelligence, gathered to witness the elocutionary contest for the Mrs. Margaret Davidson prize. The oppressive heat of the evening did not seem to interfere with the attendance, nor with the success of the entertainment, which proved to be one of the very best that has ever marked the history of the college.

There were eight fair contestants for the coveted honor, and the performances ran in the following order:

Miss Emma Wilson "Aunt Ophelia teaching Topsy to make a bed;" Miss Laura Augustine "Friar Phillip;" Miss Libbie Green "Ourfew must not ring to-night;" Miss Flora Thomas "High Tide at [illegible]" Miss Cora "Pledged with wine;" Miss Garnet Robison (a little Miss of but seven summers) "Katie Lee and Willie Gray;" Miss Mary Belle Kier "The Vagabonds;" Miss Kate Strasser "Mosher and Poet."

The elocutionary ability displayed by the young ladies was of a high order, and in some instances the readings would have done credit to many professional elocutionists and were really surprising as coming from amateurs to whom elocution had never been a special study.

The readings were very agreeably interspersed by musical instrumental and vocal, by Prof. Nichol and the Misses. McLain, N. Ballard, Miss Nettie Cherry, Miss Mary High and Miss Jennie, this part of the programme being fully as high enjoyed as any. The floral offerings to readers and musicians were abundant and testified the general pleasure.

At the close of the readings the judges, Rev. W. H. McMillen, Rev. E. A. Johnson, D. D., Prof. L. Osgood, Rev. W. B. Watkins and E. A. Montooth, Esq., withdrew, and during their absence Prof. Wm. Mason Evans gave a selection from "Oliver Twist" that gave the greatest pleasure. When the judges returned, Prof. Osgood, in a very neat speech, awarded the cup to Miss Kier, and took occasion—and very justly, too—to pay her a high compliment for the ability displayed which enabled her to carry away the prize in a contest that had been very close. He also referred with particular emphasis to the reading of the little lady Robinson, and in behalf of himself and the Committee expressed great regret that there was not two cups instead of one to award.

The audience was then dismissed, after an instrumental performance by Prof. Nichol—and it is safe to say all were satisfied at the award and at the enjoyment which the evening afforded.

ALLEGHENY FINANCES.

No Trouble About Commissions—Dipping into Gold Bearing Bonds—A Sop for the Park Commission.

A meeting of the Finance Committee of Allegheny Councils was held last evening. The City Solicitor submitted an opinion in regard to the sale of the city bonds and allowing a commission for the same. He thought that a regular commission could be paid, but the bonds must be sold at par and can only bear interest at six per cent., and the law would not allow of the bonds being sold below par so as to give the purchaser a premium that would equal seven per cent. on the bond.

Mr. Agnew moved that an ordinance be prepared authorizing the issuing of $105,000 worth of gold bearing bonds, running 20 years, $75,000 of water bonds and $30,000 of city bonds. Adopted.

Mr. Long moved that 10 per cent. of the amount of the bonds issued be set apart annually as a sinking fund for the redemption of the bonds. Adopted.

Mr. Walton moved that an ordinance be prepared authorizing the appropriation of $7,000 from the contingent fund for the Park Commission.

The motion was amended, and the amount fixed at $6,000, and then adopted.

Adjourned.

BREVITIES.

Paragraphic Pencilings of Passing Events.

····Allegheny Councils will hold a meeting Thursday evening.

····The work of paving the Troy Hill road has been commenced.

····The State Temperance Convention meets in Library Hall this morning.

····The closing exercises of the Episcopal Classical Academy to-day at 10 o'clock A. M.

····The work of placing a new gravel roof on the Allegheny Market House, was commenced yesterday.

····The Allegheny Board of Health failed to have a quorum last evening and consequently no business was transacted.

····*Demorest's Monthly*, for July, W. J. Demorest, New York, presents its usual array of attractive novelties in literature, as well as a full display of summer fashions.

····Any person having good eyesight can see the comet on a starry night from about nine o'clock until toward daylight. Six weeks hence it will be plainly visible to the naked eye.

····The *Galaxy* for July has been received. Each number of this excellent magazine seems to increase in interest. The contents are so numerous and good that we will not attempt to name them.

····Alderman Kelley, of the Eighth ward, Allegheny, who was overcome by a stroke of paralysis, several days ago, has so far recovered under the attention of Dr. Kirker as to be able to attend to business again.

····John Reese is in the station house on a charge of disorderly conduct, but it is said that he was indulging in the dangerous pastime of shooting at a woman. He was taken in at Pipetown by Officer Harrison.

····On Monday night a young man named Simpson, fireman on the Pennsylvania railroad, was accidentally caught between two cars and very seriously injured internally. He was removed to his home on Morgan street, Allegheny, and medical aid summoned.

····On Monday night as a young man and woman were driving along the road a short distance beyond Pleasant Valley, Allegheny, the driver driven over an embankment in the darkness. The young man was badly bruised and the buggy was demolished. The young woman escaped uninjured.

····Pat Coleman was committed to jail yesterday from the Mayor's office for trial on a charge of felonious assault on oath of Officer C. W. Otterson. The policeman was making an arrest on Penn avenue on Monday night when Coleman interfered and drawing a revolver threatened to shoot him.

····Pat. Lally, Thomas Wright and Joseph Price were arrested yesterday on suspicion of having attempted to rob an old gentleman of his watch and chain a few nights ago in Strawberry alley. The locality of the attempted robbery was their loafing place. They were sent to the Cordier Institute for ninety days.

····James Dunn was arrested last night by Officers McCluesney and Paisley to answer a charge of larceny, preferred by Officer John R. Weisenbaum. On Monday night an old man named Hendricks was robbed at the Union Depot of a sum of money amounting to between $40 and $50, and Dunn is suspected of being implicated in the affair.

····Dave Goggins, who was recently dismissed on a charge of having been implicated in the shooting in a Wilson street bagnio, where Edgar received his mortal wound, was again arrested yesterday for stealing half a dozen boxes of cigars from James W. Stone, a tobacconist on Ninth street. Inasmuch as he confessed the theft he was committed for trial.

····The comet of Coggia is fast approaching the earth, and is now visible to the naked eye after 1 o'clock in the morning directly beneath the Polar star, in the northern horizon. It will be the brightest on the evening of the 3d of August and afford a splendid and interesting spectacle. There will be no bull issued against this fiery visitor in this enlightened age. The exhibition will be entirely free.

····A bill in equity was filed in the Common Pleas Court yesterday morning, in which S. M. Aiken is plaintiff and David Seward defendant. The parties have been partners in a fire brick manufactory, and the plaintiff alleges that he is out forty thousand dollars more than the defendant, but can get no settlement. The Court is asked to intervene, dissolve the partnership, and settle its affairs equitably.

····Yesterday morning the will of Joseph Bernert of Allegheny, was filed in the Register's office. To his children Katharine Pfaff and Mary and Joseph Bernert, are given all the household goods, furniture, and money of decedent, and the dwelling houses situated at Nos. 87 and 89 First street, in the Third ward, Allegheny, and all the goods and chattels, to be divided among them equally. Ludwig Schuler is appointed sole executor.

····The alarm of fire from box 37 yesterday afternoon was occasioned by a burning chimney on Second avenue above Try street. An excited individual pulled the alarm when there was no necessity for it. While the Relief engine was on its way to this fire, Benton Jones, a member of the company, was thrown from his position, by a sudden jolt of the apparatus, to the sidewalk, and slightly injured. The roof of a house on Carson street, between Third and Fourth streets, South, caught fire last evening after seven o'clock and an alarm was sent in from box 126. It was extinguished however before the engines got there, and before any damage worth noting was done.

····A hearing was had yesterday before Mayor Blackmore in the case of Henry Hershouser who is charged with maintaining a nuisance in the Thirty-seventh ward, in the shape of a bone boiling establishment, which, it is alleged emits an odor decidedly disagreeable to all the citizens of the East End. For the prosecution a large number of witnesses were examined, among whom were John Hampton, Esq., Dr. Ray, Dr. Semple and Dr. Stoffler. They all testified that defendant kept continually on the premises carcases of dead sheep, cattle and horses, and that the stench arising from the same, pervaded the atmosphere for two miles around. A further hearing will be had to-day and the defendant afforded an opportunity for explanation.

····In the District Court yesterday, a bill in equity was filed by Samuel M. Kier, against David Stewart. The orator alleges that previous to the first of January, 1873, the parties entered into a partnership for the manufacture of fire brick; that the interest of each partner was to be equal, and that certain lands held in the name of the defendant on which the works were to be erected were to be transferred to the firm. The plaintiff states that he furnished all the money for carrying on the business of the firm, and that the real estate of the defendant was not transferred, as had been agreed upon. The petition asks that the court may dissolve the firm and compel a transfer of the above mentioned land, and also appoint a receiver to settle equitably the affairs of the firm.

PERSONAL.

***Bishop Domenec having been invited, has consented to make his appearance on the stage at Library Hall during the Crusaders Convention to-morrow.

***Father Hickey will be at the State Temperance Convention to-day. He is

DAILY GAZETTE.

OFFICE: GAZETTE BUILDING,
Corner Sixth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

JOSIAH KING.....N. P. REED.
T. P. HOUSTON.....D. L. FLEMING.
GEO. W. REED.

KING, REED & CO., Editors and Proprietors.

OFFICIAL PAPER
Of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City and Allegheny County.

TERMS FOR 1874.

DAILY GAZETTE.

By mail, per annum.....$6 00
Do. for six months.....3 00
Do. for three months.....1 50
Do. for one month.....50
By the week, payable to Agent or Carrier.....15

All remittances should be made by express or in money orders, and when so forwarded will be at our risk.

WEEKLY GAZETTE.

Single Subscribers.....$1 50
Clubs of five.....1 25
Clubs of ten.....1 15

A copy is furnished gratuitously to the getter up of a Club of ten. Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

Give full address, postoffice, county and State, also nearest express office, in order that there may be no mistake in forwarding papers.

Persons desiring to subscribe for the GAZETTE—Daily or Weekly—will, upon application, be supplied with specimen copies, free of charge.

KING, REED & CO.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1874.

BONDS at Frankfort 97¾.

PETROLEUM at Antwerp 27f.

GOLD closed in New York yesterday at 111¾.

IT SEEMS to be generally conceded that Colonel Scott, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, will enter the directory of the Erie Road. We predict that if this occurs, there will be a speedy improvement in the affairs of the road and the price of its stock.

CONGRESS adjourned yesterday. Its latest measures were to slightly increase the rate of postage on newspapers over what the House desired, and pass the bill; to leave the Civil Service Commission to spend the $10,000 remaining to its credit; to pass the River and Harbor bill, to pass the Appropriation bill, and defeat that on tariff.

THE *Post* joins us in our demand for an itemized showing of the exact condition of our city affairs. It also agrees with us that the increase of taxes does not prove personal dishonesty on the part of our city officials. At last the "Only" is on the right track, and we compliment it. So long as it continues along, in harmony of thought with us, we will not offend its sensitiveness by calling it a name that seems to occasion it so much sorrow.

IT OFTEN happen that things which as first reported, seem very brave and generous, shrink very much in these particulars, when exposed to the test of investigation. Sir Lambdon Lorraine, commander of the British vessel of war "Niobe" was credited with very brave doings in behalf of the crew of the "Virginus" at Santiago. A resolution conferring on him the thanks of Congress led to investigation, and the result of this was the development of the fact that he merely preferred a request in behalf of American seamen, and only labored for those of his own country.

JUST NOW, when the tax issue is up, we are able to turn to New York for some light on that very troublous subject. That city, as one of the beneficences of Tweed's reign, found itself deeply in debt, with taxes so enormous as to seriously threaten the value of property. At last matters have reached a point where the Board of Apportionment find it necessary to investigate the several departments of the Government, in order to ascertain where reductions of expense can be made. They find a long list of officials, none of which are known to the law, and others are extra clerks, who are kept on the pay roll, long after salaries are earned. In the list, $20,000 were found applied to "spies and experts." There may be nothing of this kind in our city government, but a thorough investigation should be made, and the current expenses reduced to the least practicable limit. This should be promptly done, through action of Councils. We do not seek to agitate or alarm. But this recommendation is so obvious that we urge it as wise and proper.

THE DEMOCRACY.

The unterrified yesterday held their Conventions. In the Twenty-third Congressional District no nomination was made, the Convention adjourning till September. In this city, soothing influences were at work, and the expected development of the battle between the factions did not take place. It was clear enough to be seen that the harmony was of an enforced kind, submitted to for the sake of the party, but that it did not include an era of personal good will between the warring individuals. Of course the platform was built upon the idea of Republican misdoings, and was narrow and vituperative. The only resolution that is above the old party level is that which pledges support to the new Constitution.

James H. Hopkins comes forward again as candidate for Congress. Mr. Hopkins is a gentleman of excellent private character, and of agreeably amiable disposition. His misfortune is in the rabid character of his democracy, a fact that seems to be in strange contrast with his otherwise moderate disposition. He has been in competition against General Negley before, and Negley was elected by a handsome majority. It is not, of course, probable that with Hopkins and Howard against him he will be in danger this year. Of the balance of the ticket not much need be said. The Legislative nominations will be made to-day, and over these the real fight comes. Here the real character of the Democracy will shine out. If they make nominations that shall be of high character and real ability, there will be a contest of some importance. But if the material that is generally talked of comes up, as it is very likely to do, there will be a showing of Legislative hands that a great city will be proud to contemplate. Still, it is said that our Representatives in Legislative bodies are presumed to be types of the represented.

THE PENN AVENUE ACT.

Judge White delivered the opinion of the Court, yesterday morning, in the case of Judge Mellon, understood to involve the constitutionality of the Penn Avenue Act. It decides that act unconstitutional as regards all improvements, the Commissions for which have been elected since the first of January last, when the new Constitution went into effect. The decision details the case brought up, and the points in the Penn Avenue Act. It is a special law, applying particularly to this city, and as such is suspended so far as new Commissions are concerned. But where rights have become vested, and contracts are made, they are saved by the second section of the schedule. But beyond this, the act is decided unconstitutional, because it creates a special Commission, which is opposed to Section 20 of Article 3 of the new Constitution. This section not merely prohibits the Legislature from conferring the power exercised by the Commissioners under the Penn Avenue Act, but also prevents Councils from conferring such powers on a Commission. It does not prevent municipal governments from making such improvements, but they cannot delegate this power to a Commission.

Incidental to the main question, which was disposed of on the ground stated, Judge White considered several collateral questions which had come up in the course of the debate. It was argued that the Penn avenue act violated that clause of the new Constitution which requires all taxes to be uniform on the same class of subjects. The term "taxes" in the Constitution was not considered to refer to assessments on frontage levied for improvements under the act in question. This is a very important item, as it involves the question whether the city debt has reached its maximum limit under the new Constitution. The wording of the decision is a little confused on this point. The plaintiff affirms that counting street bonds as a part of the city debt, our city has reached its maximum. This the defendant denies and the denial is admitted to be conclusive. But the decision does not say that the denial admits that after the counting all street improvement bonds as city debt, it still is below the maximum. In the next paragraph, however, the bonds issued for street improvement are declared a debt, within the meaning of the Constitution.

Of the section in article 15, where no debt is to be incurred except in pursuance of an appropriation, the bonds are considered an appropriation, within the meaning of the section. Whether, in all parts of the decision, the logic of Judge White is perfectly clear we do not here discuss. We may consider this at another time.

CITY TAXATION.

Councils have met and adjourned, and while resolutions favoring economy and calling for information touching the number of employes in the several departments of the city government have been adopted, they failed to go to the root of the difficulty, and call for a detailed statement of debts, revenues, anticipated expenditures, and what they are to go for. But we candidly say to all concerned that it must come to this. The people will not bear the burthen of additional taxation, at a time when they are poorly able to afford it, without demanding to know why the taxes have been increased. All the light obtainable by the press has been given. It shows that hitherto the wretched policy of running in debt for current expenses has been pursued, until not less than $600,000 of borrowed money was used up in the current expenditures of the city government. We presume the effort is being made to pay this. We have incurred a large debt for water works, and the city is compelled this year to do what it has not been doing heretofore, —pay the interest from its current receipts. In the two items mentioned we have about a million dollars accounted for. Just what relation the street improvements, school improvements, and other items of legitimate improvement bear to all this, we do not undertake to say. But we venture that at least $1,500,000, if not $2,000,000 may be accounted for in this way. The balance of what is raised, goes to the account of city government proper.

Now, what the people want is a clear statement of these several items. It can certainly be made. If it shows that we have been advancing in improvements too rapidly, let it be made, nevertheless, in order that our future may be wisely directed. We have been extravagant, viewed in the light of immediate results, as regards taxation, in our improvements. No city in the country can boast better, more commodious, or more thoroughly fitted school buildings than we have. Within a few years, large sums have been expended in this direction. We have the Municipal Hall, fire engine houses, and other improvements of a like nature. They form a part of the realty of the city. Add to this that several millions of dollars have been expended on our streets. The peculiar topography of our city has made that construction a very expensive item. Yet we have gone forward at a rapid rate, expending very nearly a million dollars on a single street, and all this has accumulated debt very rapidly. Our estimate is that $1,500,000 a year has been laid out, on these combined improvements, during the past ten years. Counting the interest on these $15,000,000 at six per cent. and we have $900,000 a year. The actual amount is probably a million. There are many of these improvements on which one-tenth of the principal is collected annually. Possibly the average will be nearly this,—thus calling for $1,500,000 more. We are well persuaded, that including our water works, these figures are within, rather than in excess of the facts.

Here, then, are $2,500,000 to be paid before a single dollar goes to the current expense of the city government. And all this represents outlay for what may be termed permanent improvements. These improvements have been made under the direction of citizens, many of them of the highest character and largest intelligence. Yet there has been as much complaint made against them as any one connected with the City Hall. Fifth avenue, for example, has been in the hands of the Commissioners for two years, and, we are confident they have been anxious to perform their duties wisely, expeditiously, and with economy. Yet the fact is, that delay, reputed bad management, and very large expense has attended that work. The Soho fill has been a costly experiment. Injunctions, remonstrances, and complaint have attended the progress of the work,—but we cannot see that willful wrong has been perpetrated. It is a case, simply, of bad management. So of the Water Works. We have, at this day, the largest faith in the purity, integrity, right purpose, and zeal of the old Water Commission. Their misfortunes were the outgrowth of a combination of circumstances that seemed inevitable. So we are careful not to hastily judge the city officials. Yet the people have a right to know, and must know, just why the taxes are increased. A statement in detail ought to be made, and made at once.

Presuming what we say above to be correct, we have another point to which we invite attention. Are we not trying to pay for city improvements too rapidly? Our street improvement bonds under the Penn avenue act runs ten years. Other improvement bonds have a longer time to run, but with interest and principal, we are paying far too rapidly. The business and growth of values do not admit of its being safely done as rapidly as we are attemping. The same mistake committed in our attempt to manage the National debt by swiftly reducing it, is being made in our city improvements. But the root difficulty is in making improvements at all in advance of our ability to pay.

In all this, we do not wish to be understood as saying that there is no wrong in the management of the current expenditures of the city. All we say is we do not know; and that the large taxes are not clear proof of it. But it is nevertheless true that the people will think so, unless the entire subject is made so plain that they will know to the contrary. And the only way in which this knowledge can be satisfactorily conveyed is to make a clear and detailed statement—embracing, 1. The various improvement debts, what they now are, and what they are estimated to be. 2. The interest on these, to be raised by yearly tax. 3. The amount of principal to be paid yearly. 4. The amount of deficiencies from past years, where owing, and how much tax is to be applied to this account. 5. The regular City Government—what the amounts estimated are, and how they are provided for. There are also several special funds that ought to be fully explained. On the supposition that all is right, we insist that a clear and full exhibit can be made, that will explain clearly just where the money goes, and why the large taxation is made. This will give the light necessary to admit of retrenchment where it is possible. We are firmly of the opinion that this is the shortest possible, as well as the right way, of satisfying the people.

POLITICAL NOTES.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS is named for the Presidency.

THE Hon. D. W. Voorhees is looming up as a candidate for Congress in his old Indiana district.

GEN. FRANCIS M. COCKRELL, who served in the Confederate army, is a prominent candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Missouri.

H. C. CONNOR, of Greensberg, Ind., sends greeting to the Democracy of Decatur county, and announces himself a candidate for the Legislature. His platform is "currency and beer."

IGNATIUS DONNELLY will commence at St. Paul, July 7, a weekly political paper, devoted to the farmers' party movement in that State, in which he has prominently figured for the past two years.

THE question of most interest just now among New York politicians is, who shall be the next Mayor? Mr. John Kelly at present rules Tammany, and he can either nominate himself or name some other Democratic candidate.

"HERE," says an exchange, "the forget-the-past Democracy of Indiana have nominated for Congress the convicted traitor Milligan, who only escaped hanging by the clemency of President Lincoln. Truly, time works wonders. But then, Admiral Semmes and the rest of the boys are all right again, and why not give Milligan a chance, too?"—*Commercial Advertiser.*

THE Chicago *Tribune*, referring to the blundering of the two Independent Conventions of Indiana and Illinois, says that of a dozen or more newspapers already received, which have encouraged the Independent movement and shown signs of giving it an active support this Fall, only one or two express a favorable opinion of the prospects, and all of them regard the deliverance of the two Conventions unfortunate.

PERSONAL.

DR. BROWN SEQUARD has sailed for Europe.

JUDGE RICHARDSON is going to Europe for the Summer.

THEY say that Nilsson's husband is going into business in London.

DR. JOHN HALL is to succeed Mr. Beecher as lecturer on preaching at Yale.

GOVERNOR BROOKS, of Arkansas, who is now in Washington, is said to bear a striking resemblance to the late President Lincoln.

RUMORS are afloat of a marriage between Prince Arthur, of England, and the eldest daughter of Prince Frederick Charles, of Prussia.

MISS ANNA DICKINSON, who has been reported as on the eve of going to Europe, is now announced to spend the summer at Marble-head.

COL. H. S. MCCOMB, whose suit against the Credit Mobilier led to the exposure of that disgraceful concern, has been elected President of Delaware College.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON sent in his resignation as a member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard College, last week, but was induced to withdraw it.

BLUFORD WILSON, nominated by the President to be Solicitor of the Treasury, vice Banfield, resigned, is at present United States District Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois.

CORBETT, who captured Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, has lost his twelve thousand dollars reward by investing it in a defective mortgage. He is practising law in Illinois.

THE infant daughter of Gottschalk's favorite sister, for whom he composed his "Cradle Song," was christened in Philadelphia on Thursday. M'lle Gottschalk is now the wife of Dr. Robert E. Peterson.

IT was a pretty compliment to the historian of the United States at the farewell dinner to our late Minister to Germany, that Mr. Bancroft should be toasted by Professor Curtis, the historian of Greece, and that one of the principal speakers should be Professor Mommsen, the historian of Rome.

THE late Mrs. Simon Cameron is survived by three children—the son, Don Cameron, President of the Northern Central Railroad, one daughter married to Hon. Wayne McVeigh, formerly Minister to Constantinople, and who is a lawyer, and another daughter is the wife of Hon. Mr. Haldeman, of York, Pa., now member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

THE *Jewish Times* devotes a leader to showing that Governor Moses, of South Carolina, is not a Jew. It says: "All that is Jewish about the Governor is, that his father is a Jew—the Chief Justice of the State of South Carolina—a man of unexceptionable reputation. The mother of the Governor is a Christian lady, and the son has not been brought up in the Jewish faith, has never associated with Jews—to his misfortune, no doubt—does not claim to be a Jew, and would not be recognized as such by the Jews were he to lay claim to it."

YOUNG WALWORTH, who is now in the Auburn prison, is of no use to the contractors. He has developed epileptic symptoms, and is employed in the hospital to wait on patients, *a la* Tweed. Ingersoll, the Tammany Ring swindler, has from the first been a well behaved, tractable and willing prisoner. He asks no favors, and does what is required of him without complaining. He is employed in a shop where rush horse collars are made. At first he was assigned the ordinary tasks, but the contractor soon found that he was more valuable as an overseer or general clerk, and now fills that position in the shop, though he is required to march and eat with the gang, and occupies a cell at night the same as all prisoners.

HARPER'S *Bazar* gives the following description of the costume worn by the Princess of Belgium on her wedding day: This elaborate bridal dress is of creamy white silk, cut in princesse style; that is, with the skirt and waist in one. The tablier is a scalloped fringed apron, with plaitings on the front breadth, and melon puffs on the side gores. A trained overskirt is added behind, beginning below the hips, and is trimmed with a plaiting of silk, orange blossoms and ribbon coils. The waist fits over the hips as smoothly as a corset, and is finished with a lace puff. Long sleeves trimmed in every part. The tulle veil has no hem, and the flowers form a chaplet, surmounted by a princess' coronet. Pearl ear-rings, necklace and locket.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A LITTLE ammonia in water is one of the best head cleaner there is.

FLORIDA has no daily papers. It is just the place for invalid Senators.

A PHILANTROPIST proposes to muzzle the boys during the green apple season.

PHILADELPHIA thinks an "ice mission" would be infinitely better than a "flower mission."

THE outlaws are so bad in Missouri that they demoralize the penitentiaries and jails after being caged.

THE Hartford *Times* says that a flock of pugnacious sparrows in that city attacked and drove away a dog from a bone which they coveted.

THE Peoria woman who wanted to throw herself into her husband's grave, a few months ago, has just married a lightning-rod man.

A BIT of orange peel set a good Iowa deacon flat on his back while passing the contribution box. Orange peel is very popular there now.

BOSTON has nine high schools, forty-nine grammar schools, and 414 primary schools, with 1,262 teachers, and an average attendance of 45,000 scholars.

THE woman crusaders of Philadelphia have established a Drunkard's Home, which already has eleven inmates, nine men and two women, "saved" by the praying band.

THE officers of the Bloomington, Indian & Western Railroad are in New York City settling up the affairs of the road with respect to its obligations to the Turner Bros., bankrupts, who recently failed.

THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS of the net proceeds of the entertainment recently given by the Police Department of New York in aid of the widow of Michael McNamara, who was accidentally shot by Detective Patrick Leahey while searching for a burglar, was paid over to Mrs. McNamara by Captain Irving, of the detective force.

THERE is nothing new under the sun, not even in slang. A popular and expressive phrase of the present day will be found in Shakespeare's Henry VIII., act v., scene 2, where the King says: "You are ever good in sudden commendations, Bishop of Winchester, but know I come not to hear such flatteries now, and in my presence they are *too thin*."

QUITE an event in Methodism occurred in Philadelphia on Sunday last. The society heretofore known as the Salem Methodist Protestant church individually and collectively went over to the Methodist Episcopal Church, with this change of relations the title of the church is also changed, and the church will be hereafter known as the East Montgomery avenue M. E. church.

DURING a drunken brawl in the Sherwood House in Baltimore, on Tuesday morning, Perry Amos, a well known gambler, was fatally stabbed, as he alleged, by Samuel McDonald, who was arrested. McDonald is supposed to be there on a visit from Indiana. He formerly resided near Baltimore, and is a son of Wm. McDonald, the millionaire, and former owner of Flora Temple.

SUMMER RESORTS.

CLEAR LAKE is a favorite resort with the Iowans.

PRETTY waiter girl school marms flourish at White Mountain hotels.

THE belles are beginning to choose their colors for the Saratoga regatta.

"MADE-UP bathing dresses for ladies" are advertised. Significant fact.

A 500-POUND bell has been placed in the belfry of St. James Church, Long Branch.

A WEDDING and a death recently occurred in a family at Cape May the same evening.

SENATOR FRELINGHUYSEN and family have engaged rooms at the Stockton, Cape May, for July.

NEARLY 100 cottages are in course of erection at Ocean Grove and Asbury Park. The tabernacle at the latter place, soon to be completed, will be a large and handsome structure.

"THE fog was so great at Long Branch last week that people only knew when it was morning by the obstinate iteration of persistent roosters and the monotonous strikings of clocks," says an exchange.

AS Long Branch is to have a bowling alley for ladies, the male bipeds who act as cashiers to these divinities unkindly remark that an additional allowance of "pin money" will be demanded.

NO ONE (save hotel-keepers) can have any conception of the profit made out of bridal parties at Niagara. Sarah is too full of love to eat, and "Frederwick" partakes sparingly, while embarrassment predominates. Every meal is merely "looked at" by the simpletons, while board at the rate of $4.50 per day goes right along.

AT the interior summer resort, just so soon as the "city folks" get fairly settled the villagers get up a fair or strawberry festival for the benefit of some broken-down clergyman or imaginary Sunday school. At the fair you are invariably swindled by the old maids of the town, and the festival means seven diseased strawberries on a plate sprinkled with boarding house sugar.

GOVERNOR DIX and family are at the Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga, where they will remain until July, when they occupy their cottage on Long Island. Gerritt Smith and family are also at the Grand Union for the season. A. T. Stewart will take possession of his apartments in this hotel on the 1st of July; also ex-Governor A. G. Curtin, of Pennsylvania; ex-Attorney General Henry Stansberry, of Ohio; Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin, of New York, and Washington McLean and Murat Halstead, of Cincinnati; W. B. Thomas and family, and Mrs. Dexter H. Follet and family, of Boston, will be here for the season.

FOREIGN NOTES.

BADEN-BADEN still flourishes despite the closing of its famous gambling halls.

NEW ZEALAND has a population of 273,273, an increase of nearly 200,000 in twelve years.

FRENCH exhibitors at the Vienna Exposition have not yet received their medals and diplomas.

PULLMAN palace cars are a great success in England. "They are just the sort of thing, you know; so awfully easy and jolly, you know, and all that sort of thing, you know."

MELVIL BLONCOURT was condemned to death in Paris, June 4, for participation in the Commune. He will not be executed just yet; for, though they found him guilty, they have not found where he is.

A PHYSICIAN of Manchester, England, has prepared a statistical table, showing the number of deaths from small pox occurring in 1,000 deaths from all causes, in the districts from which reports were obtained. The returns are from 1700 to 1870 and are given in decennial periods for convenience of comparison. Prior to 1800, and the introduction of vaccination, the number of deaths from small pox in each decennial period ranged from 56 to 102 in 1,000 deaths. The proportion has steadily decreased since that time from 64 in 1800-1810 to 10 in 1860-1870. The average for the decennial periods prior to 1800 was 75 in 1,000 deaths; the average since 1800 has been 28. These statistics show the great use of vaccination in saving the victims of small pox from the fatal effects of that disease.

WISCONSIN.

The New Episcopal Bishop.

Rev. Edward R. Welles, the newly-elected Episcopal Bishop of Wisconsin, is a native of New York, he having been born in the town of Waterloo, Seneca county. He graduated at Hobart College, Geneva, and studied theology, in part at least, with Rev. Dr. Wilson, now of the Cornell University. He removed to the West seventeen years ago. A clergyman who has worked by his side in the Minnesota Diocese has furnished the Chicago *Tribune* with the following brief sketch of him: Nearly all of his clerical work has been done in his present parish of Red Wing, Minnesota. He came to Red Wing when there was only a small number of settlers, and those almost wholly under the influence of the Methodists. By his untiring energy, however, and by his great personal magnetism, he speedily drew to his church some men of great influence; so that, from the very first, the progress of his church was steadily upward. It is now, probably, all things considered, the strongest and most influential parish of the Episcopal Church in the State. In character he is warm-hearted, readily accessible, a man of the people and no aristocrat; kind and sympathetic, popular even among those who differ from him, and probably never had an enemy. As a preacher, he usually speaks from manuscript, and, though he may not be what is termed in this sensational age a great preacher, he is certainly worthy of a place in the catalogue of good preachers. The choice is probably the most fortunate that could have been made. He is all that could be needed, to pacify this lately disturbed diocese. He is not capable of affiliating himself with any party. In church worship, he probably belongs to what is known as the Hobart or De-Lancy stamp. This does not mean, however, that he is a man who would be horrified by a surpliced choir, or a choral service. He has, on the contrary, a strong preference for ornate worship. He is a man of great missionery instinct, with a strong organizing faculty, and remarkable for executive and administrative power. He seldom makes speeches in council, but is much trusted in all matters requiring judgment, and has been sent as a delegate to the General Convention for several years. In the work of the new cathedral he will be perfectly at home; and under his superintendence there will be sure to grow up around it a system of schools, hospitals and homes. There are some obstacles to be overcome ere he can accept the election. The first will be his well known modesty; the second, his reluctance to leave his attached people; and lastly his wife has been, and probably will be, an invalid, and would be loth to leave home for a probably unhealthy residence in Milwaukee. It is hoped, however, that in view of the unanimity of his election, he may find means to overcome all these objections."

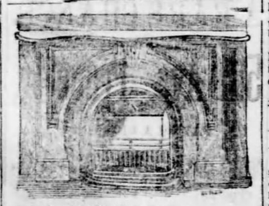
Philadelphia Newspapers.

A New York *Tribune* correspondent furnishes that paper with an interesting letter regarding the newspaper press of Philadelphia. The *North American and United States Gazette*, the oldest paper in the country (its weekly edition dating from 1771 and its daily thirteen years later—about two years before the Pittsburgh GAZETTE was established), is rarely found on the news stands nor cried by the news boys. It is the merchants' paper of the Quaker City. The *Press* has a reputation that extends over the country. The *Enquirer*, next to the *North American*, is the oldest daily in that city, and established in 1829. The *Illustrated New Age* is a morning paper printed on two separate sheets, one sheet having two pages of pictures, mostly reproductions from foreign periodicals. The *Public Ledger* is "the" local newspaper of Philadelphia, has no attractive makeup, no headlines, no leaded matter. It sells 90,000 a day, and Mr. Childs says Philadelphians would go wild if he changed the appearance of it. Besides these are the *Evening Bulletin*, *Telegraph*, the *Public Record*, the *All-Day City Item*, the *Evening Chronicle*, the *Evening Star*, and three German dailies.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
CHARTERED IN 1852.
ASSETS, January 1, 1873, - $778,251 56
OPEN DAILY from 9 to 4 o'clock, and SATURDAY EVENING, from May 1st to November 1st from 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of 6 per cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn, compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
Board of Managers—George A. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents; D. E. McKinley, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug.
Solicitor—John H. Bailey.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Hutchison & Co.
Iron Working Machinery
AND
MACHINISTS' SUPPLIES,
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
28 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.



FURNACES, RANGES,
MANTLES, GRATES, &C.
JAMES OLD, 193 LIBERTY STREET.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR INDIAN GOODS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 28, 1874.

SEALED PROPOSALS, indorsed "Proposals for Indian Goods, Class No. —," (1, 2, 3, or 3, as the case may be.) will be received at Nos. 40 and 42 Leonard street, New York, until 12 o'clock M., WEDNESDAY, the 24th day of June, 1874, for quantities therein given, any or all articles named in the following list:

The above place will be open for business from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. on and after JUNE 10, 1874.

The bids shall be opened and read publicly in the following order:

CLASS No. 1, at 12 o'clock M.
CLASS No. 2, at 2 o'clock P. M.
CLASS No. 3, at 3 o'clock P. M.

All the goods, excepting the blankets, will be required to be delivered in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, or St. Paul, by the 1st day of August next. Each bidder to specify place of delivery.

The Blankets to be delivered at any of the places above named during the month of August.

CLASS No. 1.

Blankets and Dry Goods.

1,500 pairs 3-point white Mackinac Blankets, to measure 60x72 inches, and weigh eight pounds.
1,000 pairs 2¾-point white Mackinac Blankets, to measure 54x56 inches, and weigh six pounds.
400 pairs 2-point white Mackinac Blankets, to measure 42x46 inches and weigh five and one quarter pounds.
200 pairs 1¾-point white Mackinac Blankets, to measure 36x50 inches, and weigh four and one-quarter pounds.
1,000 pairs 3-point scarlet Mackinac Blankets, to measure 60x72 inches, and weigh eight pounds.
1,500 pairs 2¾-point scarlet Mackinac Blankets, to measure 54x66 inches, and weigh six pounds.
500 pairs 2-point scarlet Mackinac Blankets, to measure 42x46 inches, and weigh five and one-quarter pounds.
2,500 pairs 3-point indigo blue Mackinac Blankets, to measure 60x72 inches, and weigh eight pounds.
2,000 pairs 2¾-point indigo blue Mackinac Blankets, to measure 54x66 inches, and weigh six pounds.
1,000 pairs 2-point indigo blue Mackinac Blankets, to measure 42x46 inches, and weigh five and one-quarter pounds.
500 pairs 3-point green Mackinac Blankets, to measure 60x72 inches, and weigh eight pounds.
500 pairs 2¾-point green Mackinac Blankets, to measure 54x66 inches, and weigh six pounds.
300 pairs 2-point green Mackinac Blankets, to measure 42x46 inches, and weigh five and one-quarter pounds.
15,000 yards Saved List Blue Cloth.
15,000 yards Saved List Scarlet Cloth.
3,000 8-4 Woolen Shawls.
4,000 pounds Linen Thread, standard make, Nos. 30, 35, and 40, two-thirds dark-blue, one-third white-brown.
600 dozen Spools Cotton, standard make, 200 yards, 3-cord and 6 cord.
200,000 yards Calico, standard prints.
50,000 yards Indigo Blue Drilling.
40,000 yards 9-oz Bed Ticking.
140,000 yards Brown Sheeting, 4-4 standard.
100,000 yards standard Duck, 8-ounce.
20,000 yards Plaid Linsey.
20,000 yards Blue Flannel, twilled.
20,000 yards Red Flannel, twilled.
5,000 yards Kentucky Jeans.
18,000 yards Satinet.
1,000 yards Colored Drilling, (for dress lining.)
300 yards Bleached Sheeting, (for shrouds.)
3,000 yards Blue Denims.
8,000 yards Hickory Shirting.
300 dozen Cotton Handkerchiefs.
600 dozen Men's Wool Socks.
600 dozen Women's Wool Hose.
400 dozen Children's Wool Hose.
40 dozen Woolen Scarfs.
20,000 Flannel Shirts.
7,000 Hickory Shirts.
1,000 Calico Shirts.

CLASS No. 2.

Clothing, Hats, Boots, and Shoes.

3,000 Sack Coats, assorted sizes, for men.
4,500 Pants, assorted sizes, for men.
800 Vests, assorted sizes, for men.
360 Loose Sack Overcoats, large size.
300 Suits, (jacket and pants) for boys five to ten years of age.
100 Vests, for boys five to ten years of age.
6,000 Men's Wool Hats, assorted sizes and colors.
260 Boys' Wool Hats, assorted sizes and colors.
500 Heavy Cassimere Caps.
1,605 pairs Men's Shoes, good quality, assorted sizes.
800 pairs Women's Shoes, good quality, assorted sizes.
250 pairs Boys' Shoes, good qualty, Nos. 5 and 6.
250 pairs Misses' Shoes, good quality, assorted sizes.
300 pairs Children's Shoes, good quality assorted sizes.

CLASS NO. 3.

Hardware, &c.

500 pounds Indigo.
600 dozen best Cast-steel Axes, 3 to 4¼ pounds.
400 dozen best Cast-steel Hunter's Axes, handled.
400 dozen Ax Handle, 36 inch, No. 1.
430 dozen short-handled Fry Pans, Nos. 1, 2 3, in equal quantities.
390 dozen Iron Pans, pressed, 2, 4, and 6 quarts.
50 dozen Tin Plates.
1,000 dozen Tin Cups, pints and quarts.
dozen tinned iron Dippers, long handles.
600 dozen tinned iron Table Spoons.
120 dozen tinned iron Tea Spoons.
1,500 dozen Butcher Knives, 6 inch.
100 dozen Hunting Knives, 6 inch.
100 dozen Skinning Knives, 6 inch.
225 dozen Knives and Forks, good quality.
10 dozen Pocket Knives.
100 dozen Taper Saw Files, 4¾ inch.
40 dozen Mill Saw Files.
350 dozen Planters' Hoes, No. 2, best cast steel.
100 dozen Hoe Handles.
40 dozen Hatchets.
12 dozen Hand Saws.
500 dozen Fish Hooks, assorted sizes.
200 dozen Fish Lines, assorted sizes.
350 dozen Sewing Awls.
250 dozen Sewing Awl Handles.
100 dozen Cast Steel Shears, 7½ and 8 inches.
400 dozen Coarse Combs.
125 dozen Fine Tooth Combs.
50 dozen Open Thimbles.
90 dozen Zinc Mirrors.
175,000 Needles, assorted sizes.
85,000 Needles, Glovers'.
500 Beaver Traps, Newhouse No. 4.
50 Mink Traps, Newhouse.
10,000 Camp Kettles, in nests of three.
5,000 bunches Beads, assorted sizes.

The letters "U. S. I. D." will be required to be plainly marked in the centre of each blanket furnished under this advertisement.

The bids will be opened in the presence of the Board of Indian Commissioners and a committee to be designated by the Secretary of the Interior as soon as the time for receiving the same shall have expired, and the contracts will be awarded as soon thereafter as practicable.

Parties bidding are required to furnish samples of the articles bid for. All the samples of each bidder must be designated by a conspicuous private mark attached to each sample, corresponding with the marks on the proposal. The name of the bidder in no case to appear on the samples. Failure to comply with this rule will subject the samples to rejection. Special care should be taken to adopt such a private mark as will insure distinction from other bidders.

It will very much facilitate the making of the awards if bidders will mark the price on each sample proposed, in addition to giving the price in the bid. No samples will be opened until after all the bids have been publicly read.

The prices must be given without any modification or proposed modification whatever.

In executing the contract the right will be reserved to increase or diminish the quantity of any of the articles embraced in the foregoing schedule, and the further right will be reserved to increase or decrease the amount specified in any contract to an extent not exceeding twenty-five per cent.

The right will be reserved to reject any or all proposals, if such a course should be deemed for the interests of the Government.

All articles furnished under contract will be required to be delivered, packed, and marked for shipment, without extra charge for cases or bailing when in original packages, according to directions which will be given, at a warehouse to be designated in the respective cities where the goods are received, and will be subject to inspection by the Board of Indian Commissioners appointed by the President; and such goods or articles as may in any respect fail to conform to the samples will be rejected, and in that case the contractor will be bound to furnish others of the required kind or quality within five days; or if that be not done, they will be purchased at his expense.

No bids will be considered from persons who have violated the terms or failed to comply with the requirements of a former contract, or who may have defaulted in any bid heretofore made.

Each bid must give the names of all parties interested in or parties to it, and no contract or part thereof, will be permitted to be sublet or assigned to any other party without the written consent of the Secretary of the Interior.

Payment will be made for the goods purchased on the presentation of the invoices thereof at this office, after they shall have been properly approved.

Blanks for proposals, with bond attached, will be furnished on application to this office.

Every bid amounting to the sum of $5,000 or over must be accompanied with a certified check or draft, payable to the order of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, upon some United States depository or solvent national bank, which check or draft shall not be less than five per centum on the amount of goods proposed to be furnished; and in case any bidder, on being awarded a contract, shall fail to execute the same with good and sufficient sureties, according to the terms on which his bid was made and accepted, such bidder shall forfeit the amount so deposited to the United States, and the same shall forthwith be paid into the Treasury, but if such contract shall be duly executed as aforesaid, such draft or check so deposited shall be returned to the bidder.

At the execution of the contract a bond will be required to its full amount for the faithful performance thereof, with two or more sureties, whose sufficiency must be certified to by a United States judge or district attorney.

It is recommended to bidders residing out of New York to furnish a New York reference with their bids, and also their address while in that city.

EDW. P. SMITH,
Commissioner.

OFFICE UNION BRIDGE CO.,
PITTSBURGH, June 1st, 1874.

Notice to Rivermen.

Notice is hereby given to those interested in the navigation of the Allegheny river, that on and after June 8th, 1874, the channel from south abutment to pier No. 4, a distance of 212 feet will be temporarily obstructed by the false works of first span of UNION BRIDGE. The contractor will keep a RED LIGHT on works as a danger signal.

By order Board of Directors.

F. W. SMITH,
Chief Engineer.

je1:c66

DRY GOODS, TRIMMINGS.

Way Down Prices.

AT 6¼ CENTS,
New Styles Dark Calicos, Fast Colors.
AT 8⅜ CENTS,
New Style Calicos, some Best Makes.
AT 8⅜ CENTS,
New Styles Side Band Calicos.
AT 6¾ CENTS,
FINE UNBLEACHED MUSLINS
AT 8⅜ CENTS,
A Yard Wide Undressed Bleached Muslin.
AT 10 CENTS,
A Very Extra Bleached Muslin Undressed.
AT 10 CENTS,
Heavy Twilled Striped Linen Crash.
AT 12½ CENTS,
Fine Heavy Bleached Muslins, extra value
AT 12½ CENTS,
Extra Value in Linen Towelings.
AT 12½ CENTS,
HEMP STAIR CARPETS.
At 15c, Very Large Towels, an extra bargain, &c.,
&c.
New and beautiful Styles Trimming Border Calicos.
Mourning Calicos, a very large variety.
Summer Chintzes, Morning Chintzes.
Colored Crash for Stairs.
A splendid assortment of Damask Towels in all qualities.
Table Linens, all grades.
LINEN LAP RUGS
SOME SPECIAL BARGAINS,
AT
WM. SEMPLE'S.
165, 167 and 169
FEDERAL ST., ALLEGHENY.

EXTRA
GOOD BARGAINS
OUR ENTIRE ASSORTMENT
OF
LADIES' PARASOLS
AND
Silk Sun Umbrellas
OFFERED AT
MARKED DOWN
PRICES.
JOS. HORNE & CO.,
197 and 199
PENN AVE.

DRESS GOODS,
Summer Silks and Black Hernanis,
VERY CHEAP.
Great Bargains in Linen Suits, Sun Umbrellas and Parasols, at
H. J. LYNCH'S,
No. 96 Market Street.

CARPETS, OIL CL

FINANCIAL.

FRANKLIN SAVINGS FUND
And Safe Deposit Co.,
Corner 7th Avenue and Smithfield Street.
Incorporated by Legislature of Pennsylvania.

CAPITAL, - - $250,000.

Interest allowed on Deposits. Short Loans on Valuable Property, Real or Personal. Discounts daily. Open daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Saturdays from 7 to 9 P. M.

JOSEPH M. GAZZAM, President.
SAM'L A. LONG, Vice President and Business Manager.

DIRECTORS.
J. M. Gazzam, And. J. Lea,
J. F. Smith, Geo. M. Reed,
Samuel A. Long, Frank Rehner,
A. J. Donchett.

JOHN G. MACCONNELL, Solicitor.

SHOE AND LEATHER BANK,
14 Smithfield Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
CAPITAL, - $200,000.
GEO. H. ANDERSON, President.
JOHN D. FRASER, Cashier.

Deposits received and 6 Per Cent. Interest allowed on Time Deposits. Particular attention given to Collections and proceeds promptly remitted.

GERMAN NATIONAL BANK.
Cor. Wood Street and Sixth Avenue.
CAPITAL, - - - - - - $250,000
SURPLUS, - - - - - - - 127,000

Interest allowed on time deposits.

Exchange on Germany, France, England and Switzerland at lowest rates. Collections made promptly on all parts of the United States and Canadas. Particular attention given to all business of correspondents.

DIRECTORS.—A. Groetzinger, J. F. Havekotte, W. F. Lang, J. C. Dickson, E. H. Meyer, Joseph Lang, Paul Hugus, Christ. Siebert, F. Habersman.
A. GROETZINGER, President.
JOSEPH LAURANT, Cashier.

DAILY GAZETTE.

FINANCIAL.

Latest Advices Concerning Money and Stock Matters.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
WEDNESDAY, June 24, 1874. }

Dullness is the prevailing fact. Few notes, fewer discounts, and, in truth, comparatively little demand for money. Mortgages on good property are in demand, and in this particular, money is seeking investment, rather than investments seeking money. In truth, we have entering fairly on the summer time, when we may have but little to record, except the possible slow developments of business. This is a feature of which it may be said that there is a slow but steady improvement in many branches of business, and a spirit of hopefulness generally prevails. The completion of the financial legislation of Congress continued yesterday to exert a hopeful and favorable influence on stocks, there being a general and healthful advance in prices. Gold was dull, making but a slight advance. Thus stands affairs now.

The following stocks were sold last evening, by A. McIlwaine, auctioneer, at his stock sales rooms, 106 Smithfield street:

Exchange National Bank	$69 75
Citizens' " "	68 50
M. and M. " "	69 00
Bank of Pittsburgh	66 50
Homestead Bank ($64 paid in)	11 50
Jones Ferry Co	11 00
Monongahela Bridge Co	38 50
Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Railway Co	59 75
Certificates, Delaware Mutual Ins. Co., 50 per cent.	

Says the Philadelphia *Ledger*:—The death of Senator Cameron's wife has called him away undoubtedly for the session, and this makes an agreement regarding the reciprocity treaty with Canada almost impossible until December. He opposes the treaty, and has an important advantage as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. A majority of the Senate, however, favor it, but propose to accord this ascendancy to Mr. Cameron under the existing circumstances.

The first mortgage bondholders of the Oswego Midland Railroad held a meeting at New York on Friday, at which a resolution was passed and adopted for the appointment of a committee to report at a future meeting some definite plan for the protection of the interests of the first mortgage creditors in the reorganization of the road.

The Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company reports earnings for May, 1874, $290,382.22; expenses, $224,493.15; net earnings, $65,889.07. May, 1873, net earnings, $13,395.32. Increase, $52,493.75. Two months, $52,493.75.

The monetary situation in New York was unchanged during last week, the amount of capital offered being largely in excess of the demand, at 2@3 per cent. on call. The July disbursements for interest and dividends, amounting to some $40,000,000, will shortly be paid, and will add largely to the present volume of loanable funds. Of this aggregate sum the United States will pay out about $25,000,000 in gold. Foreign exchange ruled very dull throughout the week at $4,87½@4,88, nominal rates being $4,90@4,91. The rates for American gold were almost uniform throughout the week, with the highest at ¼ and the lowest rates being 111¼ @111⅝, with the bulk of the transactions at 111 @111⅜. The week's shipment of specie aggregated $1,740,135 84, against $1,737,928 for the week ending June 13. Government securities remained strong, and the transactions were liberal, the list closing at an advance of from ⅛@⅜. The week's shipment of specie aggregated $1,740,135 84, against $1,737,928 for the week ending June 13. Government securities remained strong, and the transactions were liberal, the list closing at an advance of from ⅛@⅜. The demand for Railroad Bonds and State securities was limited, with tolerably firm prices, and no especial eagerness for purchases. It is somewhat difficult to account for the reduction of over $2,000,000 in the bank loans, unless it be in consequence of the general dullness of trade and the limited demand for money. The decrease of nearly $2,000,000 in specie is to be chiefly accounted for by the shipments to Europe.

The Directors of the Hanibal and St. Joseph Railroad announce that the interest on their bonds, also of the Missouri State bonds, $3,000,000, known as the "Hanibal and St. Jo Issue," due July 1, will be paid on and after that date at the Bank of North America.

The total of anthracite coal marketed for the week ending on the 13th instant amounted to 644,683 tons, and for the coal year 7,875,095 tons, against 8,022,152 tons to corresponding time last year, being a decrease of 144,056 tons. The bituminous tonnage for the week is 79,736 tons, and for the year 1,846,506 tons, against 1,267,546 tons to same time last year, giving a total of all kinds for the week of 526,419 tons, and for the year of 9,225,060 tons, against 9,289,698 tons to same time last year, being a decrease of 64,638 tons. At Port Richmond for the week ending the 20th inst., the receipts of coal were 60,000 tons, the shipments 56,000 tons, leaving 130,000 tons on hand. Freights are now quoted at $1 25 to Providence, $2 to Boston, and 95 cents to New York. The coastwise coal tonnage of the Pennsylvania Railroad last week was 63,736 tons, and for the year 2,280,085. Of anthracite and bituminous there were 1,148,782 tons, and of coke 218,654 tons. The tonnage of coal both east and west, by the Lehigh region the production has fallen off slightly and some coal is being stocked at the ports. The coal trade is undeniably depressed, as is almost every other business interest, but there is no reason to doubt that the market will take as much coal as last year, and should there be a revival in the iron interest later in the year, as many anticipate, there will be an increase on last year's coal production to that extent.—*Phila. Ledger.*

Luther S. Kauffman, Broker, No. 96 Fourth Avenue, furnishes the following quotations of bonds and stocks from the latest advices by telegraph:

	Opened.	Closed.
Gold	111¾	111¾
U. S. 5-20s—1881—coupons	122	122
5-20 1862	114½	114⅝
5-20—1864	113⅝	113⅝
" 1865	113⅝	113⅝
" 1865 new	113⅝	113⅝
" 1867	121¼	121¼
" 1868—coupons	121	121¼
10-40's	113⅝	113⅝
Currency 6's	115	115
10-40's—coupons	114¾	114¾
New 5 per cents	114¾	114¾
RAILWAYS.		
New York Central	98¾	99¼
Erie	30⅝	31¼
L. S.	94	95
R. I. & E.		
C. C. & I. C.	18¾	18¾
Pt. Paul	37¾	37¾
Pt. Wa. preferred	68⅝	68⅝
Michigan Southern	72¾	73
Do. Central	93¾	94
North Western Common	41¾	42
Do. Preferred	68¾	68¾
Rock Island	93¾	93¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	97¾	97¾
Pacific Mail	41¾	41¾
Western Union Telegraph	78¾	78¾
Ohio & Mississippi	24¾	25
Union Pacific	97	97¾
Toledo & Wabash	34¾	34¾
Harlem	124	126
Chicago and Alton	101	101
Do. Preferred	106	106
Adams Express	63¾	63¾
American Express	69¾	69¾
U. S. Express	78¾	79
W., Fargo & Co. Express		
Quick silver	108	108
Panama	25	27¾
Hannibal and St. Joseph		27¾
Do. Pref.		30

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following quotations of active stock on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Penna. Central	97¾	
" " scrip	101¾	
Reading	57	
United Cos. of N. J.	123¾	
Erie	31	
Lehigh Valley	43¾	
A. V. R. R.	36	
Central Transportation	42	
Empire do.	34	

New York, June 23, 1874.

Money ranged 2½@3; prime mercantile paper 5@5½. Sterling was quiet and firm at 488½@401, less a commission. The customs receipts were $268,000. The total exports of produce for the week were $6,429,678, a decrease from last week of $450,909, and was moderately active and weak, declining from 112 to 111⅝, closing at 111¾. The carrying rates were 3 per cent. to flat. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $48,000. The clearings were $47,000,000. Government were firm. Railroad bonds were dull. State bonds were quiet, with higher figures for some. The stock market was active and strong during the day, with an advance in the general list of ½ to 1¾ per cent. There were several reactions, but the advance as given was well sustained. Erie was a feature so far as fluctuations are concerned, and advanced from 28¾ to 33 on a higher price from London, and later fell off to 31¼ on a report of trouble in the direction and the resignation of several leading directors. At the close of business the market was strong at the best prices of the day, the feature being Lake Shore, which advanced to 74¾ on large transactions. Two more small failures occurred this afternoon.—J. B. Blatchford and C. L. Davenport.—Who were unable to meet their contract. Among the sales were 21,000 shares Erie, 79,000 Lake Shore, 87,000 Northwest, 24,000 Pacific Mail, 11,000 St. Paul, 47,000 Western Union, 19,000 Wabash, 53,000 Union Pacific and 8,800 C. C. & I. C.

Governments.—U. S. coupons of 1881, 122; 5-20s of '62, 114½; do of '64, 117⅜; do of '65, 118¼; do new, 120⅝; 5 20s of '67, 121⅝; do '68, 121⅝; new 5s, 114⅜; 10-40s, 114⅜; currency 6s, 115.

State Bonds.—Missouri sixes, 97; Tennessee, old, 79; do new, 79; Virginia, new, 52; do old, 30; North Carolina, old, 18; do new, 10.

Stocks.—Canton, 52; Western Union Telegraph Company, 74¾; Quicksilver, 20; Adams Express, 106¾; Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, 77¾; American Express, 60¾; United States Express, 69; Pacific Mail, 44¾; New York Central, 99¾; Erie, 31¾; do preferred, 45; Harlem, 126; do preferred, 155; Michigan Central, 74½; Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago, 87¾; North western common, 41¾; do preferred, 68¾; Rock Island, 93¾; New Jersey Central, 107; St. Paul, 37¾; do preferred, 59; Toledo & Wabash, 34¾; do preferred, 65; Fort Wayne, 95; Terre Haute, 7; do preferred, 29; Ohio & Mississippi, 25; Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati, 66; Burlington & Quincy, 104; Lake Shore, 74¾; Panama, 18; Illinois Central, 96; Union Pacific, 27¾; Central Pacific, 92¾; Union, 86¾; Delaware & Lackawanna, 109; Hartford & Erie, 1.

LONDON, June 23.—5 P. M.—The amount of bullion gone into the BANK of England on balance to-day was £11,000. 5-20s of '65, 106½; do '67, 108¼; 10-40s, 105¼; new 5s, 104¾; New York Central, 99; Erie, 28; preferred, 45¼. *Consols*: money, 92⅝@92¾; account 92¾@93¾.

PARIS, June 23.—Rentes 59f 25c.

FRANKFORT, June 23.—5-20s, '62, 97¾.

COMMERCIAL.

Condition of the Markets at Home and Abroad.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
TUESDAY, June 23, 1874. }

General business continues much the same as it has been for some time past, dull, but the fact that the President has signed the currency bill cannot fail to have a good effect, as it will tend very much to restore confidence, and the outlook is very favorable for an active and healthy fall trade, and now that the financial policy of the Government has been settled, trade may commence to pick up before it was expected.

BEANS—There is a fair demand, but no change to make in quotations; $2.40@2.50 for mediums and $2.65@2.75 for fair to choice navies.

BUTTER—There is no improvement in the demand since our writing, and the receipts continue light, stocks are still accumulating and prices are weak but unchanged; quotable at 10@15c for fair to prime solid packed and 17@18 for choice.

CHEESE—There is a very fair local trade, and we can report regular sales of prime Ohio Factory to 13@13¾c. Ohio Sweitzer, 16@17.

EGGS—The arrivals still appear to be increasing, and the market, if anything, is weaker, as stocks have commenced to accumulate; strictly prime must be fairly quoted at 15, all under this are sloughing, and the market, if anything, is weaker, as stocks have commenced to accumulate; strictly prime must be fairly quoted at 15, all under this are sloughing, and the market, if anything, is weaker, as stocks have commenced to accumulate; strictly prime must be fairly quoted at 15, all under this are sloughing fairly on the other hand, some dealers continue to quote at 16.

FLOUR—There is a fair local demand, but no change in sales worthy of mention to quote, in a jobbing way, at $6.75@7.25 for Superfine and No. 3 flours, the outside figure for choice Minnesota; $7.25@7.50 for red winter brands, and $8@8 50 for fancy white wheat. Rye Flour, $5.

GROCERIES—Coffee is much firmer under the influence of the advices from the east, and while there has been no change whatever in prices here, as yet, an early advance is not improbable. Private advices from New York report that market considerably excited, with large sales on Monday, and that, too, at very full rates. The market is practically "cornered," as the stock on the seaboard is mainly controlled by a few New York speculators, and as the receipts from Rio will no doubt be light for some time to come, it is thought present prices will be maintained until the new crop commences to come forward. However, we believe the belief that jobbers are not only here, but elsewhere, will buy only for immediate wants, during the next two months; one brand has been picked up two or three times during the past year and they do not intend to be picked again if they can help it. Sugars, especially refined, quiet, at former rates and prospects freely for prices remain as last quoted.

MOLASSES—Cuba Clayed, 31c; Cuba Muscovado, 36c; good, 38c; common, 25c; Porto Rico, 40@45c.

SYRUPS—Fancy White Drips, $1.00@1.25; White Drips, 85c; Golden Drips, 65@75c; Sugar House, 50@55c. Molasses Syrups, 35 to 50c as to quality.

RICE—Best Carolina, 9¾; good, 9¼; Rangoon, 8@8½c; Patna, 9c.

GRAIN—There is but little call for Wheat, as the mills are pretty well stocked, but prices rule firm, there being no change to note since the date of our last report; we continue to quote at $1.30@1.35 for red winter and $1.35@1.40 for white. The market for Corn and Oats is firm and tending upward, as stocks are considerably reduced and the receipts recently have been comparatively light since reported at 69@70, for the car load. Corn, both ear and shelled continues scarce and prices are firm and tending upward; we continue to quote at 70@72 for the former and 68@68 for the former. Rye is quiet and nominally unchanged.

HAY—There is no improvement to note in demand and no change to make in quotations, $18@20 for baled, according to quality.

PROVISIONS—Hams—Extra Sugar Cured, canvassed, 14½; Shoulders—Extra Sugar Cured, canvassed, 9¾; Breakfast Bacon—Sugar Cured canvassed, 12½; Dried Beef—Extra Sugar Cured, canvassed, 12. Bacon—Shoulders, 8¾ ₱ lb; Rib Sides, 10¾; Short Rib Sides, 11¼; Clear Rib Sides, 11¾. Mess Pork, ₱ brl, $19.50. Lard—Prime Leaf, in tres 12¾ ₱ lb; Refined summer use in tierces, 9¾; kegs, 10; buckets, 10¼; 3 ₱ cn, 11¾; 5 ₱ do, 13¾; 3 10 pails, 11¾; 5 do pails 14¾; 10 do pails 14¾.

POTATOES—There was a brisk demand for new up to day, and prices were rather higher; quotable at $5@5 ₱ brl. It is said some shipments were made to Cincinnati, where they were quoted at $6@6. Old Potatoes are dull and unchanged; selling in a jobbing way at $1@1.25 ₱ bushel, as to quality.

POULTRY—Spring Chickens, (live) quotable at 40@60 cts ₱ pair, according to size, and old ones at 70@80.

RAGS—The market is reported quiet and unchanged at 3cts ₱ lb for good mixed.

SEEDS—Flax Seed is wanted at $2.21.

TALLOW—The market continues quiet and prices unchanged at 6x@6c.

PETROLEUM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, }
TUESDAY, June 23, 1874. }

The Petroleum trade, so far as Pittsburgh is concerned, continues quiet, and the market in a general way presents nothing really new or particularly important. Crude is still holding its own pretty well, notwithstanding the recent strike reported, 50@85c ₱ brl at wells, and 95 free on cars. The offerings continue light, indicating that there is no pressure to sell, while at the same time many of our refiners could not buy, even if so disposed, for want of tankage, and besides, it is claimed that the raw article is higher relatively than the product. Refined was reported somewhat firmer at the close to-day, but prices were without quotable change. June and July, 12¾, delivered in Pittsburgh, is said to 2¾ cts on cars here. The inquiry is mainly for near-by delivery, as exporters are cautious to ship now at the high freights now ruling, and as intimated in a recent report, accounts for the large shipments within the past few weeks.

CRUDE OIL RECEIVED BY ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Shipper	Consignee	Bbls.
McKelvy & Boyce	Hutchinson O W	611
McKelvy	Cormoso O W	616
McKelvy	Vesta O W	468
McKelvy	Brilliant O W	168
L. W. Young	Brilliant O W	967
Fisher Bros	Liberty O W	324
Fisher Bros	Hudson & Co.	992
Fisher Bros	Fairview O W	297
Duncan	Citizens O W	932
Bradley & Co.	Hudson & Co.	163
Stevenson	Central O W	929
Stevenson	Peerless O W	854
Total		7,378

New York Breadstuffs Market—Weekly Review.

NEW YORK, June 22.—We have had a very active but variable Flour market; more liberal arrivals of Medium Winter and Spring Wheat Extras have compelled holders to make further concessions to realize promptly, and the prices accepted for these are the lowest of the season, and is simply due to the excessive production, more especially of the Medium grades; these generally do not come within the limits of European buyers, and the supply for six or eight months has been largely in excess of the wants of the home trade, and this could only be sold freely by submitting to prices that would come within the limits of shippers to Europe; at the decline in Winter Wheat brands a large business has been done since Tuesday, and has doubtless astonished millers to purchase Wheat for the use of the no sal condition of the market; buyers generally, while our present limited stock of about 230,000 brls (largely made up of Medium Winter and Spring Wheat Extras), will be used up; the new Winter Wheat, as the West is a full price, with our present line of supplies of trade brands; we have had a considerable demand for the so-called "New Patent Process;" they have been pressed on the market and have taken the place of Winter Wheat brands to some extent; many of these selling at 6.75@7 ₱ brl. The present unsatisfactory market is chiefly due to the over-production, and hence millers should operate cautiously. The low grades of Minnesota have fluctuated and close lower. Fancy brands do, "Bakers' Extras," have ruled firm and are in steady demand. No 2 and Superfine have been in brisk demand, have improved, and we find the market has been cleared of these, the trade and provincial buyers taking them freely at a considerable advance. Shipping Extras have been quite active, mainly for Great Britain, and the market has gradually hardened; the falling off in the production at the Northwest, West of Ships, Extras, is the material advance in Spring Wheat, and the rapid exhaustion of supplies, have greatly stimulated the demand, and have lessened more confidence in the future—we mean for July and August. Good Fresh Ground Shipping Extras have the preference with shippers, and are not plenty at the close. City Ground Flour has been quite active and has improved, the prices being kept with the West Indies and South American buyers have stocked themselves quite freely, and the aggregate business of the week has been large. The exports of the week are 56,450 brls, against 50,000 brls the corresponding week last year.

We have had a very active though at times a very depressed Wheat market. The arrivals have been large and under unfavorable advices from Liverpool up to Wednesday prices have rapidly declined; as the consequence a very active demand prevailed. This shocked the downward tendency and some teasing followed, the falling off in the receipts at the Lake ports and holders here refusing to sell. We have had since Tuesday a decided change to the upward, and features of the market, a change in the character of the advices from Great Britain, contributing somewhat to the change, but the chief cause of the reaction is due to the great falling off in the receipts at the principal Lake ports; there are some 60,000 bushels less than for the previous week—and we find the visible supply of Wheat is much diminished since our last, and we look for a gradual falling off this month in the supplies and a large reduction in July. Our advices of the growing crops are not at all satisfactory this week as previously. In the Winter Wheat growing States the Wheat has not headed out in some localities as well as was anticipated, and the crop is not so forward; this is particularly true of clay soil. In the Spring Wheat States the crop is backward—not up to the general average; these advices, however, are based on weather we hope for a favorable change. The crop at the North West will be ten days later than was anticipated, and this should admonish Western millers to purchase Wheat to correspond with the no sal condition of the market to-day; we think

HOME NEWS.

Persons leaving Pittsburgh for the Summer can have the DAILY GAZETTE mailed to their address anywhere in America or Europe, by leaving their orders in the Counting Room, corner of Sixth avenue and Smithfield street.

The Temperance Convention.

Particular attention is called to the card of Mrs. Black, President of the W. C. T. U., as it is very desirable that the arrangements for delegates to the State Convention to be held in Library Hall to-day and to-morrow should be perfected at once. Contributions for the lunch either in money or provisions are especially solicited.

The Pennsylvania Central R. R. Co.—Change of Schedule.

The running of trains by Philadelphia time, which is twenty minutes faster than Pittsburgh time, has been abandoned by the Pennsylvania Central after two days trial. Trains will arrive and depart from this on as heretofore by our city time. Those interested should examine the time table.

SUNSTRUCK.

A Workman Rendered Delirious.

Last evening shortly after 5 o'clock a man named Frank Teal, was engaged digging a cellar on Sherman avenue, in the rear of St. Peters new church, when he was suddenly overcome by the intense heat and fell insensible to the ground. After working with him for some time his fellow workmen carried him to the lock-up and summoned Dr. Thorn, who did all he could for him but last night at 10 o'clock he was still lying there, and it was thought he would not recover. He was then delirious, and could not tell where he lived.

THE LAST MEETING.

Closing Exercises at the Normal Class.

The M. E. Normal Class,—which has yielded so much pleasure and so much profit to Sunday School workers—wound up its session at the Liberty street M. E. Church last evening. The closing meeting was attended by a very large audience.

The exercises were under the supervision of Mr. Sidney Onohundro, and the programme as has been published was adhered to. At the close a resolution of thanks was tendered the trustees of the church and the press, after which the Class adjourned *sine die*.

"CLASPING HANDS."

The Park Commission and the Finance Committee Embrace—A $6,000 Peace-maker.

The Allegheny Park Commission met last evening and approved bills amounting to $990.77. Their funds being all exhausted and there being no appearance that Councils intended appropriating any more for them the members were discussing the propriety of preparing their resignations and had about decided to do so when they received notice that the Finance Committee had decided to recommend that $6,000 be appropriated for their use, which information caused them to change their views in regard to "resignation." The skies were thus cleared and the sun shone again.

PROTECTION FROM FIRE.

Allegheny to be Supplied With Another Steamer—A new Style Talked of.

The sub committee of the Committee on Fire Engines of Allegheny Council appointed at the last meeting of the committee to proceed to New York and purchase a new steam fire engine for the Ninth ward, will probably go next week. They intend examining while there the self propelling engine, one that is run along the streets with steampower, thereby doing away with the horses. If it works well and is a success, the committee will likely purchase one of that kind, as they cost no more than the ordinary ones and it saves the necessity of purchasing two more horses and also save the expense of their feed. Several of that kind of engines are now in use in New York City.

CHECKED UP.

Judge White's Decision Stops Proposed Improvements.

The decision of Judge White in the District Court, to the effect that the Penn Avenue Act is unconstitutional, stops operations on twenty-five streets of the city, which were to be improved under the act. The streets are Dilworth street, Hall street, Gray street, Cowan street, Southern avenue, Grand avenue, Virginia avenue, Railroad street, Washington street, St. Clair street, Bluff street, Pride street, Congress street, Magee street, Stevenson street, Chestnut street, Vickroy street, Butler street extension, Fifth avenue extension, Dallas avenue, Frankstown avenue, Grazier street, Kelley street, Station street, Broad street, Sheridan avenue.

The decision in the Penn avenue matter having settled the question in the Butler street case, the plaintiff Mr. John H. Sawyer, did not appear yesterday morning with a $5,000 security bond and no injunction was granted.

RAID BY THE DETECTIVES.

Three Houses of Ill Fame in East Liberty "Pulled."

Considerable excitement was created last night in East Liberty, by a raid that was made by the Detective force on a number of houses of ill fame located in that section. The residents it seems had become restive under the proximity of such establishments, and were very desirous to get rid of them. Accordingly Chief of Police Irwin made informations against Miss Lincoln, Mary Thompson and Mary Warden, charging them with maintaining bawdy houses and selling liquor without license. The concern of Miss Lincoln is located on Broad street, and the others are near at hand. Warrants were issued, and about ten o'clock last night the Chief issued an order for the Black Maria to be sent to East Liberty, but did not state for what. About midnight it returned, filled to its utmost seating capacity with the "boarders" at the places above referred to, and was followed by two barouches containing still more. There were ten women in all. They were placed in the Central Station house, and will have a hearing this morning. The arrests were made by Chief Irwin, assisted by Detectives Cuppler, Scott, Messner, Herron, Wilmot and Fender.

A WOMAN BADLY BEATEN.

Affair at a Hotel in Uniontown.

On Sunday evening last, at Uniontown, a colored man named Lewis Henderson beat Curbeda Walker, a white woman, over the head with a chair, inflicting very serious injuries. The affair occurred at Thorndell's Hotel, at a time when the men were all absent. George Thorndell was at the corner-stone laying at Dunbar, and the old gentleman had gone out riding with his wife. The woman is a cook at the hotel, and after supper she went into the dining room and took a seat at the table. While sitting there the negro Henderson came in and ordered her to get up. She refused to do so, when the brute picked up a chair, and striking across the table, hit her a terrible blow on the head, making three dangerous wounds and breaking her nose. She screamed and fell senseless to the floor, the negro fleeing. Her cry attracted attention, and she was found by some of the boarders, bleeding profusely. Drs. Walker and Bowie were summoned and dressed her wounds, but she did not recover sensibility until Monday morning. The negro was not arrested. It is said that he harbored vindictive feelings against the woman because she had, on one or two occasions, caught him stealing cold victuals and reported the fact, and that his assault was for the purpose of wreaking revenge.

THE WATER PIPE CONTRACT.

The Committee of Inquiry Ends its Labors —Report on Thursday Night.

Another meeting of the sub-Water Committee, appointed to investigate the matter of the extension of time to Wm. Smith & Son, for the completion of his contract to furnish the city with water pipe, and also to make inquiry concerning the awarding of the contract for fifty inch pipe, held a second and a final meeting yesterday afternoon in Municipal Hall. Mr. Hunter presided. An affidavit from Mr. Simon Beymer, an old member of the Water Commission, was submitted and read. He was to the effect that Mr. Smith had been awarded the contract for all the pipe to be used in the extension of the new water works, fifty inch pipes as well as all other sizes. Mr. D. W. C. Carroll, also an ex-Water Commissioner, was examined and stated that the fire which in question visited the foundry of Mr. Smith, after the fire, it did so in an official capacity, a visit of a similar character having been made the same day to the reservoirs, and that when, on that occasion, an extension of time was granted Mr. Smith, on account of the destructiveness of the fire, it was done officially.

The committee went into secret session after the testimony had all been taken, and discussed the matter for a while. What conclusion they arrived at though will not be known until the meeting of the Water Committee on Thursday night, when a report will be submitted.

DEMOCRACY.

Gathering of the Clans—The Belligerent Spirit Calmed—A Ticket Partially Nominated.

Yesterday morning the District Court room No. 2 was vacated by the representatives of the dignity and majesty of the law, and given over to the clans of democracy assembled in County Convention. The purpose of the gathering was to nominate candidates for Judge of the Orphans' Court, District Attorney, Commissioner, Director of the Poor, and Congress in the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Districts.

The convention organized by the election of Mr. John H. Bailey as Permanent Chairman, and then spent the morning session 10 minutes "squaring" and "shaking hands" with "the factions having thus fraternally embraced, there was a desire among some of the delegates to adjourn until September, so that the material work connected with nominating a ticket might not disturb the general loveliness of the situation. The Convention, however, decided to select a ticket and did so by putting up the following standard bearers:

Congress, 22d District—James H. Hopkins.

Congress, 23d District—Postponed until September 1st.

Judge of Orphan's Court—Chris Magee.

District Attorney—J. K. P. Duff.

Assistant District Attorney—Morton Hunter.

County Commissioner—Jacob Lachelle.

Director of the Poor—Charles Bryson.

The Convention endorsed a series of high flown resolutions, to the effect that the Republican party was responsible for all that happened in the world adverse to humanity, but that the pure Democracy was the immaculate emblem of "whatsoever things were pure, whatsoever things were lovely, whatsoever things were of good report," and then dissolved.

The Democracy will come to the front again to-day, and struggle with the selection of a Legislative ticket.

PENN AVENUE ACT.

The Court Decides it to be Unconstitutional.

The Question Discussed at Length —The Act Unconstitutional Because it Raises Special Commissions—The City not Allowed to Transfer its Municipal Functions —Judge White also Considers Some Incidental Side Issues— What is an Increase in the City Debt — The "Bond" Question Thoroughly Overhauled.

Yesterday morning Judge White in the District Court delivered the opinion of the Court in the case of Mellon vs. the City of Pittsburgh *et al.* The following is the opinion of the Court in full:

THE CASE STATED.

Thomas Mellon filed his bill against the city of Pittsburgh, against James Blackmore, Mayor, and R. M. Snodgrass, Controller of said city, and against George Finley and others, Special Commissioners, to restrain them from proceeding to grade and pave certain streets mentioned in said bill. The Commissioners were elected in pursuance of the act known as the Penn Avenue Improvement Act, and propose proceeding to improve and grade said streets, to borrow money and assess the cost of the improvements upon the properties abutting on said streets in accordance with the provisions of said act. The plaintiff owns a lot on one of the said streets, the cash value of which he says is about one thousand dollars, and the assessment on the same, it is asserted, will amount to twelve hundred and twenty dollars. He also charges that the provisions of said act are in conflict with the present Constitution of the Commonwealth, and therefore prays that the city be restrained from issuing bonds, and the Commissioners from proceeding with the work. The answer of defendants admits the main averments of the bill, thus raising directly the grave constitutional questions involved.

The act in question is entitled "An Act to provide for the improvement of Penn avenue and other avenues and streets in the city of Pittsburg," approved 22 April, 1870. It authorizes the owners of property abutting on Penn avenue to elect five citizens, owners of property on said avenue, to be known as "Commissioners of Penn avenue Improvement," whose duty it should be "to control and superintend the grading, curbing and paving" of said avenue. They were to organize by the election of a President and Secretary; the Commissioners to serve without salary, but the secretary to receive such compensation as they might determine. Vacancies in the board were to be filled by the remaining Commissioners. The Commissioners were "authorized to determine the kind and description of pavement to be used," and "provide for the improvement." And for this purpose they were authorized "to make and enter into contracts for furnishing materials, grading, curbing and paving said avenue, either for the entire work in one contract or for parts thereof in separate and specified sections, as to them may seem best, and to superintend and control all work done in pursuance thereof, and to dispose of any surplus material obtained in the grading thereof," but the improvement was to be uniform throughout its length, and to conform to the grades established by the city. All contracts made by the Commissioners were to be in the name of the city, were to be given to the lowest bidder, after public notice, &c.

Contractors were required to give bonds to the city, with securities to be approved by the Commissioners, and the Commissioners have power to institute suits in the name of the city, to enforce their contracts. After the work was completed, the Commissioners were to notify the City Engineer of the fact, and thereafter it was under the control of the proper city officers.

For the purpose of providing for the cost of and expense of said improvement, the Commissioners were authorized, from time to time as the work progressed, "to make requisition upon the Mayor of the city for the issue bonds of the city in such sums as they may deem best," and it was the duty of the Mayor to make and execute bonds in the name of the city, to an amount not exceeding the amount of the contract price for said work, and the additional sums attending the same; the bonds to be signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the Controller, bearing seven per cent. interest, and payable in twelve years. The Commissioners were authorized to negotiate the bonds, in such manner as they might think best, and for such prices as could be obtained, not less than par, and pay the proceeds into the City Treasury. This money was to be kept by the City Treasurer as a separate fund, and to be paid out on requisition of the Commissioners.

After the entire completion of the improvement, the Commissioners were to ascertain the total cost and expenses, make out a plot of the avenue, showing the properties and names of owners, and assess the total cost upon the properties abutting on said avenue equally per foot front. After giving notice, and correcting any errors, the Commissioners were to file these assessments in the Prothonotary's office, when they became liens upon the several properties. The assessments were made payable to the city treasury, in ten equal annual installments, with seven per cent. interest. Moneys received from these assessments were to be appropriated, under direction of the Finance Committee, for the payment of the interest and the redemption of the bonds.

The last section of the act provided that whenever the owners of a majority in interest of the property abutting upon any other street or avenue of the city should desire to avail themselves of the privileges contained in the act, it should be lawful for the City Councils to direct the grading and paving of the same, and to authorize an election for Commissioners, when all the provisions of the act should be applied to the improvement of such street or avenue. By the supplement of 20th of March, 1872, they could not direct the grading, paving and curbing of a street, under this act, unless the cost thereof should exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars; but they might order the grading, paving and curbing of two or more connecting streets, by one set of Commissioners, where a majority in interest of the owners of property on each street petitioned for the same, and in such case, the cost of the improvement of each street was to be kept separate and assessed separately on that street.

THE PENN AVENUE ACT SPECIAL.

This is a local or special act for the city of Pittsburgh. There can be no doubt that now, under the new Constitution, the Legislature has no power to pass such an act. The prohibitions on the legislative power contained in section seven of article three cover such an act. "The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law (among other things) regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, &c. * * ; authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining *roads*, highways, streets or alleys, * * ; incorporating cities, towns or villages, or changing their charters; * * creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, &c. * * ; or fixing the rate of interest, &c., &c., but laws regulating local or special acts may be passed."

IS THIS ACT REPEALED?

Is this act repealed by the new Constitution? There is no section in the new Constitution repealing local or special acts in force at the time of its adoption, and the last paragraph quoted above from Section 7 of Art. III, strongly implies that it was not the intention of the framers of that instrument to repeal local or special acts previously passed. But it is agreed that Section 2 of the schedule virtually repeals this act, for it provides that "All laws in force in this Commonwealth at the time of the adoption of this Constitution not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, actions, prosecutions and contracts shall continue as if this Constitution had not been adopted." It is contended that this section, by implication, repeals all laws inconsistent with the new Constitution. It is not, however, a repealing section. It is first section in the schedule of the Constitution of 1790, and the schedule of the Constitution of 1838 was originally adopted, perhaps, under the impression that a new Constitution, without a saving clause, would abrogate all former laws.

But another question arises, admit that the act in question is not repealed by the new Constitution; yet, if it contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, how far, if at all, can these provisions be enforced after the adoption of the new Constitution?

CONTRACTS PRESERVED.

Doubtless, where rights have become vested, they cannot be taken away, and where contracts have been made, they may be enforced, for these are expressly saved by the second section of the schedule; and for these purposes the act would remain and be enforced by the Courts. But can it be used for future improvements? If this act contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, shall it, simply by virtue of its prior birth, have a continuous existence, and be paramount to the Constitution? Shall this local and special act for the city of Pittsburgh, stand against the Constitution, and, for all time to come, (unless the Legislature choose to repeal it), justify the city of Pittsburgh and its citizens in doing what is prohibited by the fundamental law of the Commonwealth to all other citizens? Certainly not.

The question, then, is, is this act a law for the city of Pittsburgh, to be invoked and applied in the improvement of its streets, since the adoption of the new Constitution?

The new Constitution, according to section 1 of the schedule, takes effect, for all purposes not otherwise provided for therein, on the 1st day of January, 1874. The ordinance of the City Councils, directing the improvement of the streets mentioned in plaintiff's bill, and authorizing an election of Commissioners for that purpose, was passed March 9th, 1874. In pursuance of that ordinance the Commissioners were elected. This, therefore, is a case originating since the adoption of the new Constitution.

Since the passage of this act, and within the last three years, several streets of the city have been graded and paved under its provisions, and the amount of city bonds issued and yet to be issued to complete the streets, now under contract, will be about five millions of dollars. Commissioners have been elected in two cases since the first of January, and several others are in contemplation, only awaiting the final decision in this case. The act seems to have been very popular with the citizens. But with the wisdom or propriety of the legislation we have nothing to do. Our duty is to pass upon the constitutional questions presented by the bill and answer.

THE ACT CREATES SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.

Several sections of the new Constitution are referred to as violated by the provisions of this act. I will take them in their order:

ARTICLE III., SEC. 20.—"The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, private corporation or association, any power to make, supervise, or interfere with any municipal improvement, money, property or effects, whether held in trust or otherwise, or to levy taxes or perform any municipal function whatever."

To the common mind, on reading this section, it would seem to be in direct and irreconcilable conflict with the main features of the Penn Avenue Act. That act creates a special commission for the improvement of a certain street in the city, and invests the commission with most important municipal functions. It is suggested, however, that the section is wholly prospective, and means that the General Assembly shall not thereafter appoint any special commission for such purpose. But if that were the object of the section, it was entirely unnecessary, for the 7th section of the same Article prohibits all such local or special legislation. It is to be presumed that the framers of that instrument did not insert in it any useless repetitions, but that each Section has a distinct meaning, and was designed for a distinct object. Besides, the meaning suggested does violence to the plain language of the Section. It does not say that the General Assembly shall not appoint a special commission, but shall not delegate certain powers to a special commission. It does not absolutely prohibit the creation of a special commission, nor refer to the mode of their appointment; but to the powers they shall possess.

It is suggested, again, that the Penn Avenue Act is not a delegation of powers to a special commission; it is a delegation of powers to the city, and the commissioners are merely the agents of the city, or parts of the municipal machinery established for the exercise of certain municipal functions. This view of the Act, however, is not sustained by an examination of its provisions. The commissioners are not the agents of the city. They possess independent powers. The Councils have no control over them, except to demand a bond for the faithful performance of their duty. They are not responsible to the Councils in any respect. The Commissioners alone, without consulting the Councils or any city officer, have the power to determine the kind of pavement, the character of the work, and the time and manner in which it shall be done; the number and amount of bonds to be issued by the Mayor; the negotiation of the bonds and the expenditure of the money, and the levying of the tax, or assessments upon the properties, to pay the debt and interest. All these are municipal functions, and in all these respects the Commissioners are independent of the proper municipal authorities. They are, therefore, in no sense agents of the city. Neither are they municipal officers. They are specially elected for a special purpose, and cease to exist as soon as that purpose is subserved. In every sense of the expression, they are "a special Commission." Neither do they derive their powers from any city ordinance. It is true that before a set of Commissioners can be elected for the improvement of any street, the Councils must pass an ordinance directing the improvement and authorizing an election of Commissioners. But that exhausts the powers the Councils in the premises, except to demand a bond as above stated. The Commissioners derive all their powers directly from the Act of Assembly. By the express terms of the act these powers are delegated to the Commissioners, and not to the city. There was no need of this act, to clothe the city with power to make such improvements. The city possessed, by previous acts, all the essential powers contained in this act, except the power to issue bonds and provide for the payment of the same by assessments, payable in annual installments for a series of years.

But, if the act should be construed as giving power to the city to create a special Commission and confer upon it the powers contained in this act, could such a commission be sustained under the present Constitution? The grading and paving of streets, and the levying of taxes or assessments upon the property abutting, to pay expenses thereof, are among the highest and most important municipal functions. They are some of the sovereign powers of the Commonwealth. They are, and from necessity must be, frequently delegated to municipal corporations. That was so under the old Constitution, and is not forbidden in the new. And in the absence of any constitutional restrictions upon the power of the Legislature the General Assembly might delegate these functions to the Councils, or to any other body or commission they thought proper. No such limitation or restriction upon the Legislature was contained in the old Constitution. Hence under that Constitution the General Assembly might create a special commission, and confer upon it municipal functions, and might, perhaps, authorize the Councils to create a special commission and invest it with municipal functions. But can this be done under the new Constitution? The section under consideration expressly says, "The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, * * any power to make, supervise or interfere with any municipal improvement, * * or to levy taxes, or perform any municipal functions whatever." Of course the General Assembly cannot directly do what is here so plainly and emphatically prohibited. Can they do it indirectly, by authorizing the City Councils to do it? They may authorize the City Council of the city for the issue bonds of the city in such sums as they may deem best, and it was the duty of the Mayor to make and execute bonds in the name of the city, to an amount not exceeding the amount of the contract price for said work, and the additional sums attending the same; the bonds to be signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the Controller, bearing seven per cent. interest, and payable in twelve years. The Commissioners were authorized to negotiate the bonds, in such manner as the might think best, and for such prices as could be obtained, not less than par, and pay the proceeds into the City Treasury. This money was to be kept by the City Treasurer as a separate fund, and to be paid out on requisition of the Commissioners.

After the entire completion of the improvement, the Commissioners were to ascertain the total cost and expenses, make out a plot of the avenue, showing the properties and names of owners, and assess the total cost upon the properties abutting on said avenue equally per foot front. After giving notice, and correcting any errors, the Commissioners were to file these assessments in the Prothonotary's office, when they became liens upon the several properties. The assessments were made payable to the city treasury, in ten equal annual installments, with seven per cent. interest. Moneys received from these assessments were to be appropriated, under direction of the Finance Committee, for the payment of the interest and the redemption of the bonds.

The last section of the act provided that whenever the owners of a majority in interest of the property abutting upon any other street or avenue of the city should desire to avail themselves of the privileges contained in the act, it should be lawful for the City Councils to direct the grading and paving of the same, and to authorize an election for Commissioners, when all the provisions of the act should be applied to the improvement of such street or avenue. By the supplement of 20th of March, 1872, they could not direct the grading, paving and curbing of a street, under this act, unless the cost thereof should exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars; but they might order the grading, paving and curbing of two or more connecting streets, by one set of Commissioners, where a majority in interest of the owners of property on each street petitioned for the same, and in such case, the cost of the improvement of each street was to be kept separate and assessed separately on that street.

THE PENN AVENUE ACT SPECIAL.

This is a local or special act for the city of Pittsburgh. There can be no doubt that now, under the new Constitution, the Legislature has no power to pass such an act. The prohibitions on the legislative power contained in section seven of article three cover such an act. "The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law (among other things) regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, &c. * * ; authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining *roads*, highways, streets or alleys, * * ; incorporating cities, towns or villages, or changing their charters; * * creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, &c. * * ; or fixing the rate of interest, &c., &c., but laws regulating local or special acts may be passed."

IS THIS ACT REPEALED?

Is this act repealed by the new Constitution? There is no section in the new Constitution repealing local or special acts in force at the time of its adoption, and the last paragraph quoted above from Section 7 of Art. III, strongly implies that it was not the intention of the framers of that instrument to repeal local or special acts previously passed. But it is agreed that Section 2 of the schedule virtually repeals this act, for it provides that "All laws in force in this Commonwealth at the time of the adoption of this Constitution not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, actions, prosecutions and contracts shall continue as if this Constitution had not been adopted." It is contended that this section, by implication, repeals all laws inconsistent with the new Constitution. It is not, however, a repealing section. It is first section in the schedule of the Constitution of 1790, and the schedule of the Constitution of 1838 was originally adopted, perhaps, under the impression that a new Constitution, without a saving clause, would abrogate all former laws.

But another question arises, admit that the act in question is not repealed by the new Constitution; yet, if it contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, how far, if at all, can these provisions be enforced after the adoption of the new Constitution?

CONTRACTS PRESERVED.

Doubtless, where rights have become vested, they cannot be taken away, and where contracts have been made, they may be enforced, for these are expressly saved by the second section of the schedule; and for these purposes the act would remain and be enforced by the Courts. But can it be used for future improvements? If this act contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, shall it, simply by virtue of its prior birth, have a continuous existence, and be paramount to the Constitution? Shall this local and special act for the city of Pittsburgh, stand against the Constitution, and, for all time to come, (unless the Legislature choose to repeal it), justify the city of Pittsburgh and its citizens in doing what is prohibited by the fundamental law of the Commonwealth to all other citizens? Certainly not.

The question, then, is, is this act a law for the city of Pittsburgh, to be invoked and applied in the improvement of its streets, since the adoption of the new Constitution?

The new Constitution, according to section 1 of the schedule, takes effect, for all purposes not otherwise provided for therein, on the 1st day of January, 1874. The ordinance of the City Councils, directing the improvement of the streets mentioned in plaintiff's bill, and authorizing an election of Commissioners for that purpose, was passed March 9th, 1874. In pursuance of that ordinance the Commissioners were elected. This, therefore, is a case originating since the adoption of the new Constitution.

Since the passage of this act, and within the last three years, several streets of the city have been graded and paved under its provisions, and the amount of city bonds issued and yet to be issued to complete the streets, now under contract, will be about five millions of dollars. Commissioners have been elected in two cases since the first of January, and several others are in contemplation, only awaiting the final decision in this case. The act seems to have been very popular with the citizens. But with the wisdom or propriety of the legislation we have nothing to do. Our duty is to pass upon the constitutional questions presented by the bill and answer.

THE ACT CREATES SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.

Several sections of the new Constitution are referred to as violated by the provisions of this act. I will take them in their order:

ARTICLE III., SEC. 20.—"The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, private corporation or association, any power to make, supervise, or interfere with any municipal improvement, money, property or effects, whether held in trust or otherwise, or to levy taxes or perform any municipal function whatever."

To the common mind, on reading this section, it would seem to be in direct and irreconcilable conflict with the main features of the Penn Avenue Act. That act creates a special commission for the improvement of a certain street in the city, and invests the commission with most important municipal functions. It is suggested, however, that the section is wholly prospective, and means that the General Assembly shall not thereafter appoint any special commission for such purpose. But if that were the object of the section, it was entirely unnecessary, for the 7th section of the same Article prohibits all such local or special legislation. It is to be presumed that the framers of that instrument did not insert in it any useless repetitions, but that each Section has a distinct meaning, and was designed for a distinct object. Besides, the meaning suggested does violence to the plain language of the Section. It does not say that the General Assembly shall not appoint a special commission, but shall not delegate certain powers to a special commission. It does not absolutely prohibit the creation of a special commission, nor refer to the mode of their appointment; but to the powers they shall possess.

It is suggested, again, that the Penn Avenue Act is not a delegation of powers to a special commission; it is a delegation of powers to the city, and the commissioners are merely the agents of the city, or parts of the municipal machinery established for the exercise of certain municipal functions. This view of the Act, however, is not sustained by an examination of its provisions. The commissioners are not the agents of the city. They possess independent powers. The Councils have no control over them, except to demand a bond for the faithful performance of their duty. They are not responsible to the Councils in any respect. The Commissioners alone, without consulting the Councils or any city officer, have the power to determine the kind of pavement, the character of the work, and the time and manner in which it shall be done; the number and amount of bonds to be issued by the Mayor; the negotiation of the bonds and the expenditure of the money, and the levying of the tax, or assessments upon the properties, to pay the debt and interest. All these are municipal functions, and in all these respects the Commissioners are independent of the proper municipal authorities. They are, therefore, in no sense agents of the city. Neither are they municipal officers. They are specially elected for a special purpose, and cease to exist as soon as that purpose is subserved. In every sense of the expression, they are "a special Commission." Neither do they derive their powers from any city ordinance. It is true that before a set of Commissioners can be elected for the improvement of any street, the Councils must pass an ordinance directing the improvement and authorizing an election of Commissioners. But that exhausts the powers the Councils in the premises, except to demand a bond as above stated. The Commissioners derive all their powers directly from the Act of Assembly. By the express terms of the act these powers are delegated to the Commissioners, and not to the city. There was no need of this act, to clothe the city with power to make such improvements. The city possessed, by previous acts, all the essential powers contained in this act, except the power to issue bonds and provide for the payment of the same by assessments, payable in annual installments for a series of years.

But, if the act should be construed as giving power to the city to create a special Commission and confer upon it the powers contained in this act, could such a commission be sustained under the present Constitution? The grading and paving of streets, and the levying of taxes or assessments upon the property abutting, to pay expenses thereof, are among the highest and most important municipal functions. They are some of the sovereign powers of the Commonwealth. They are, and from necessity must be, frequently delegated to municipal corporations. That was so under the old Constitution, and is not forbidden in the new. And in the absence of any constitutional restrictions upon the power of the Legislature the General Assembly might delegate these functions to the Councils, or to any other body or commission they thought proper. No such limitation or restriction upon the Legislature was contained in the old Constitution. Hence under that Constitution the General Assembly might create a special commission, and confer upon it municipal functions, and might, perhaps, authorize the Councils to create a special commission and invest it with municipal functions. But can this be done under the new Constitution? The section under consideration expressly says, "The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, * * any power to make, supervise or interfere with any municipal improvement, * * or to levy taxes, or perform any municipal functions whatever." Of course the General Assembly cannot directly do what is here so plainly and emphatically prohibited. Can they do it indirectly, by authorizing the City Councils to do it? They may authorize the City Council of the city for the issue bonds of the city in such sums as they may deem best, and it was the duty of the Mayor to make and execute bonds in the name of the city, to an amount not exceeding the amount of the contract price for said work, and the additional sums attending the same; the bonds to be signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the Controller, bearing seven per cent. interest, and payable in twelve years. The Commissioners were authorized to negotiate the bonds, in such manner as the might think best, and for such prices as could be obtained, not less than par, and pay the proceeds into the City Treasury. This money was to be kept by the City Treasurer as a separate fund, and to be paid out on requisition of the Commissioners.

After the entire completion of the improvement, the Commissioners were to ascertain the total cost and expenses, make out a plot of the avenue, showing the properties and names of owners, and assess the total cost upon the properties abutting on said avenue equally per foot front. After giving notice, and correcting any errors, the Commissioners were to file these assessments in the Prothonotary's office, when they became liens upon the several properties. The assessments were made payable to the city treasury, in ten equal annual installments, with seven per cent. interest. Moneys received from these assessments were to be appropriated, under direction of the Finance Committee, for the payment of the interest and the redemption of the bonds.

The last section of the act provided that whenever the owners of a majority in interest of the property abutting upon any other street or avenue of the city should desire to avail themselves of the privileges contained in the act, it should be lawful for the City Councils to direct the grading and paving of the same, and to authorize an election for Commissioners, when all the provisions of the act should be applied to the improvement of such street or avenue. By the supplement of 20th of March, 1872, they could not direct the grading, paving and curbing of a street, under this act, unless the cost thereof should exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars; but they might order the grading, paving and curbing of two or more connecting streets, by one set of Commissioners, where a majority in interest of the owners of property on each street petitioned for the same, and in such case, the cost of the improvement of each street was to be kept separate and assessed separately on that street.

THE PENN AVENUE ACT SPECIAL.

This is a local or special act for the city of Pittsburgh. There can be no doubt that now, under the new Constitution, the Legislature has no power to pass such an act. The prohibitions on the legislative power contained in section seven of article three cover such an act. "The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law (among other things) regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, &c. * * ; authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining *roads*, highways, streets or alleys, * * ; incorporating cities, towns or villages, or changing their charters; * * creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, &c. * * ; or fixing the rate of interest, &c., &c., but laws regulating local or special acts may be passed."

IS THIS ACT REPEALED?

Is this act repealed by the new Constitution? There is no section in the new Constitution repealing local or special acts in force at the time of its adoption, and the last paragraph quoted above from Section 7 of Art. III, strongly implies that it was not the intention of the framers of that instrument to repeal local or special acts previously passed. But it is agreed that Section 2 of the schedule virtually repeals this act, for it provides that "All laws in force in this Commonwealth at the time of the adoption of this Constitution not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, actions, prosecutions and contracts shall continue as if this Constitution had not been adopted." It is contended that this section, by implication, repeals all laws inconsistent with the new Constitution. It is not, however, a repealing section. It is first section in the schedule of the Constitution of 1790, and the schedule of the Constitution of 1838 was originally adopted, perhaps, under the impression that a new Constitution, without a saving clause, would abrogate all former laws.

But another question arises, admit that the act in question is not repealed by the new Constitution; yet, if it contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, how far, if at all, can these provisions be enforced after the adoption of the new Constitution?

CONTRACTS PRESERVED.

Doubtless, where rights have become vested, they cannot be taken away, and where contracts have been made, they may be enforced, for these are expressly saved by the second section of the schedule; and for these purposes the act would remain and be enforced by the Courts. But can it be used for future improvements? If this act contains provisions in direct conflict with the new Constitution, shall it, simply by virtue of its prior birth, have a continuous existence, and be paramount to the Constitution? Shall this local and special act for the city of Pittsburgh, stand against the Constitution, and, for all time to come, (unless the Legislature choose to repeal it), justify the city of Pittsburgh and its citizens in doing what is prohibited by the fundamental law of the Commonwealth to all other citizens? Certainly not.

The question, then, is, is this act a law for the city of Pittsburgh, to be invoked and applied in the improvement of its streets, since the adoption of the new Constitution?

The new Constitution, according to section 1 of the schedule, takes effect, for all purposes not otherwise provided for therein, on the 1st day of January, 1874. The ordinance of the City Councils, directing the improvement of the streets mentioned in plaintiff's bill, and authorizing an election of Commissioners for that purpose, was passed March 9th, 1874. In pursuance of that ordinance the Commissioners were elected. This, therefore, is a case originating since the adoption of the new Constitution.

Since the passage of this act, and within the last three years, several streets of the city have been graded and paved under its provisions, and the amount of city bonds issued and yet to be issued to complete the streets, now under contract, will be about five millions of dollars. Commissioners have been elected in two cases since the first of January, and several others are in contemplation, only awaiting the final decision in this case. The act seems to have been very popular with the citizens. But with the wisdom or propriety of the legislation we have nothing to do. Our duty is to pass upon the constitutional questions presented by the bill and answer.

THE ACT CREATES SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.

Several sections of the new Constitution are referred to as violated by the provisions of this act. I will take them in their order:

ARTICLE III., SEC. 20.—"The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, private corporation or association, any power to make, supervise, or interfere with any municipal improvement, money, property or effects, whether held in trust or otherwise, or to levy taxes or perform any municipal function whatever."

To the common mind, on reading this section, it would seem to be in direct and irreconcilable conflict with the main features of the Penn Avenue Act. That act creates a special commission for the improvement of a certain street in the city, and invests the commission with most important municipal functions. It is suggested, however, that the section is wholly prospective, and means that the General Assembly shall not thereafter appoint any special commission for such purpose. But if that were the object of the section, it was entirely unnecessary, for the 7th section of the same Article prohibits all such local or special legislation. It is to be presumed that the framers of that instrument did not insert in it any useless repetitions, but that each Section has a distinct meaning, and was designed for a distinct object. Besides, the meaning suggested does violence to the plain language of the Section. It does not say that the General Assembly shall not appoint a special commission, but shall not delegate certain powers to a special commission. It does not absolutely prohibit the creation of a special commission, nor refer to the mode of their appointment; but to the powers they shall possess.

It is suggested, again, that the Penn Avenue Act is not a delegation of powers to a special commission; it is a delegation of powers to the city, and the commissioners are merely the agents of the city, or parts of the municipal machinery established for the exercise of certain municipal functions. This view of the Act, however, is not sustained by an examination of its provisions. The commissioners are not the agents of the city. They possess independent powers. The Councils have no control over them, except to demand a bond for the faithful performance of their duty. They are not responsible to the Councils in any respect. The Commissioners alone, without consulting the Councils or any city officer, have the power to determine the kind of pavement, the character of the work, and the time and manner in which it shall be done; the number and amount of bonds to be issued by the Mayor; the negotiation of the bonds and the expenditure of the money, and the levying of the tax, or assessments upon the properties, to pay the debt and interest. All these are municipal functions, and in all these respects the Commissioners are independent of the proper municipal authorities. They are, therefore, in no sense agents of the city. Neither are they municipal officers. They are specially elected for a special purpose, and cease to exist as soon as that purpose is subserved. In every sense of the expression, they are "a special Commission." Neither do they derive their powers from any city ordinance. It is true that before a set of Commissioners can be elected for the improvement of any street, the Councils must pass an ordinance directing the improvement and authorizing an election of Commissioners. But that exhausts the powers the Councils in the premises, except to demand a bond as above stated. The Commissioners derive all their powers directly from the Act of Assembly. By the express terms of the act these powers are delegated to the Commissioners, and not to the city. There was no need of this act, to clothe the city with power to make such improvements. The city possessed, by previous acts, all the essential powers contained in this act, except the power to issue bonds and provide for the payment of the same by assessments, payable in annual installments for a series of years.

But, if the act should be construed as giving power to the city to create a special Commission and confer upon it the powers contained in this act, could such a commission be sustained under the present Constitution? The grading and paving of streets, and the levying of taxes or assessments upon the property abutting, to pay expenses thereof, are among the highest and most important municipal functions. They are some of the sovereign powers of the Commonwealth. They are, and from necessity must be, frequently delegated to municipal corporations. That was so under the old Constitution, and is not forbidden in the new. And in the absence of any constitutional restrictions upon the power of the Legislature the General Assembly might delegate these functions to the Councils, or to any other body or commission they thought proper. No such limitation or restriction upon the Legislature was contained in the old Constitution. Hence under that Constitution the General Assembly might create a special commission, and confer upon it municipal functions, and might, perhaps, authorize the Councils to create a special commission and invest it with municipal functions. But can this be done under the new Constitution? The section under consideration expressly says, "The General Assembly shall not delegate to any special commission, * * any power to make, supervise or interfere with any municipal improvement, * * or to levy taxes, or perform any municipal functions whatever." Of course the General Assembly cannot directly do what is here so plainly and emphatically